

BESM

Revolutionary Girl
GUNA
THE BLACK ROSE SAGA



Revolutionary Girl UTÉNA

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REVOLUTIONARY GIRL UTÉNA: Book 2

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ABOUT REVOLUTIONARY GIRL UTENA

Revolutionary Girl Uténa (*Shoujo Kakumei Uténa*) is an enormously popular *shoujo*-style anime from the studio that created. It started in Japan as a *manga* written and illustrated by Chiho Saito. The success of the original *manga* lead to the first anime series, and later, to the movie *The Adolescence of Uténa*. Videotape and DVD versions of *Revolutionary Girl Uténa* were released in the United States and Canada by Software Sculptors and Enoki Films. This book covers the second season. *Revolutionary Girl Uténa: The Rose Collection* and *Revolutionary Girl Uténa: Apocalypse* are the subjects of other fan guides from *Guardians of Order*.



Revolutionary Girl Uténa was released as *shoujo manga* in Japan. *Shoujo manga* is “girls” manga. Where *shonen* (“boys”) manga focuses on action-adventure with action emphasised over plot, *shoujo manga* is concerned with emotions, feelings, plots, character development and moods. It is designed, marketed, and sold primarily to girls and women.



Modern *shoujo manga* is written for girls and women by girls and women. It focuses on romance, friendships, and family. It is often set at middle or high schools, and deals with high school age problems: teachers, school, peers, first loves, boyfriends, and girlfriends. The detailed relationships are not strictly heterosexual; several *manga* deal with relationships between two boys and, as the Japanese culture becomes more permissive, two girls.

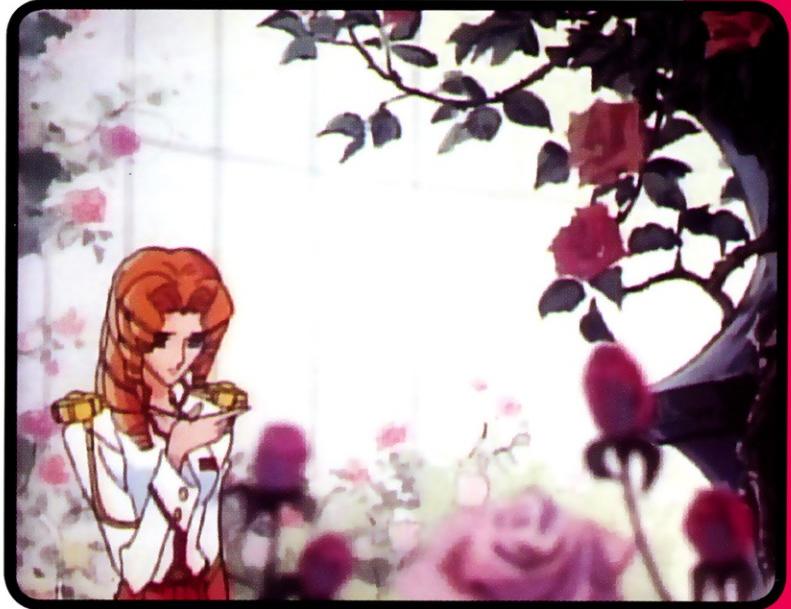


Uténa is an *mahou shoujo* or “magical girl” sub-genre of *shoujo manga*. The main character has a power from a secretive magical source, like a magic crystal or a magic item. *Mahou shoujo* features repetitive transformation sequences, magical battles, and easily recognisable attacks.



Uténa belongs to the *mahou shoujo* sub-genre of anime, marketed to an older, adult audience that rose to popularity in the 1980s. It distinguishes itself from other *shoujo manga* by using innovative variations of familiar tropes: rebellious young girl, emotionally adult plot lines, inter-gender battles, and more action. This adult magical girl anime is shorter in duration with a more pointed story line than its youth-oriented counterpart. Most, like Uténa, have no more than 40 original episodes encapsulating one complete story line. Uténa uses the generic trappings of a *mahou* “Magical Girl” *shoujo* to explore the adult themes of sexuality, love, and leaving behind adolescence.

A popular motif that appears in *shoujo* and overwhelmingly in both the Utena *manga* and anime is that of flowers. Flowers tell the mood of the scene, identify the heroine, and expresses how one character feels about another. The roses of *Revolutionary Girl Utena* are a bold and sensual allegory of Utena moving from a childhood to adulthood.



EPISODE GUIDE

The Black Rose Saga bridges the beginning of Utena and the End. Utena, the Champion Duellist, stands unopposed and engaged to the Rose Bride. The Student Council lies fractured. Their leader, Touga Kiryuu, sits dejected and depressed in his room and does not come out. The school spel Kyoichi Saionji, the Vice President and leader of the Kendo Club, for fighting on the Duelling Platform without permission and for striking Touga with his sword. Miki and Jury, the two last core members, are neither interested nor of the disposition to keep up the fight. Touga's little sister, 13-year old Nanami, takes over the leadership of the Student Council for her big brother — no one opposes her.

Into the void of desolation and despair steps Souji Mikage with a plan to rid himself of the Student Council, and replace the Rose Bride. With his new Rose Bride, Mamiya, Mikage hopes to cheat the game of duelling and ascend to the Castle where Eternity Dwells without fighting the final Duel. He will usurp the power of miracles, and revolutionise the world. The path, as he believes, has been prepared for him. The only problem is Utena, and her Rose Bride, Anthy. Mikage needs his own strong duellists — pawns — to play End of the World's game long enough to wrest the Rose Bride from Utena's grasp and sacrifice the Rose Bride to the game itself. He creates new Duellists from suffering and pain, and sends them to face Utena alone.

The Black Rose Saga chronicles Mikage's attempts at wresting the power for himself, and then his terrible end, as End of the World forces Mikage to face his inadequacies and play the game — as End of the World planned from the beginning.





EPISODE: 14



EPISODE 14: The Boys of the Black Rose

Once a week, Anthy leaves Utene to visit her brother, Akio. Utene meets Akio's fiancée, Kanae, who seems like a nice girl. Unfortunately, Kanae hides a secret: she hates Anthy. Souji Mikage uses this hate to turn Kanae into his first Black Rose Duellist, to fight Utene for possession of the Rose Bride.

Deep Underground, a display case holds a black rose in a pool of water. A youth leans over to pluck it. Another, older, boy joins the first.

"Even deep underground, where the sun cannot reach, the rose still blooms nicely," the elder boy, Souji Mikage, says.

"That is because the black rose absorbs the darkness itself," answers the other, Mamiya.

In a room at the top of a tower, Anthy bids someone goodbye and steps into the elevator.

Utene walks into her empty dormitory building and greets Chu-Chu. She opens the door to the dormitory room they share and finds Anthy missing. Utene is not surprised. She rarely sees Anthy on Saturday nights. Utene asks Chu-Chu if he knows anything about Anthy's sojourns. Chu-Chu falls out the window.

Anthy enters, claiming schoolwork and her weekly visit to her Big Brother.

The next week, Anthy takes Utene to visit her big brother. They ascend to the Planetarium of the Chairman's Home, situated at the apex of the Central Tower of Ohtori Academy. As they exit the elevator, Utene sees two people in the embrace of love. Before Utene can flee, dragging Anthy with her, one of the two lovers ends the embrace and pleasantly greets the girls.

Minutes later, Utene and Anthy sit on a couch. Utene is terribly embarrassed at walking in on the two. Anthy is strangely passive.

The two lovers are Akio and Kanae. Akio, Anthy's brother, is a college student and the school's acting chairman. Kanae is Akio's fiancée. Kanae's father is the real Chairman of Ohtori Academy, but he is... mysteriously absent. The two will wed once Kanae graduates from Ohtori Academy at the end of the current school year.

Akio gazes at the enormous Planetarium projector. He has a



certain fondness for stargazing — an obsession, really. The students at the academy, he believes, have a love of learning and never fight. Kanae knows nothing bad ever happens at the academy. It truly is a wonderful place.

Mamiya picks the black rose.

Utena and Anthy stand to leave, their visit over. As they enter the elevator, Kanae stops them and begs Anthy to call her "sister." Anthy smiles disturbingly and says nothing.

Elsewhere, a young man sits in a private office. Mikage is the high school genius who sponsors the Mikage Seminar — alias, the Circle of the Black Rose. Rumours claim even high-level government officials belong to the Circle. The Circle of the Black Rose knows all, especially about the inner workings of Ootori Academy.

Now, two professors offer Mikage gifts for his work. Mikage does not wish material rewards — instead he wants to ask a favour some day. The professors bow and leave.

Minutes later, Miki stands before Mikage's desk. The two go sit in a nearby lounge and talk. Mikage offers Miki admission to the "Mikage Seminar," but Miki turns it down, claiming to be unworthy. Mikage counters that a great mind like Miki's would make a fine addition but Miki insists on declining, although he promises to inform Mikage if he changes his mind.

On the walk home from the visit with Akio and Kanae, Anthy thanks Utena for not telling her brother about Anthy being the Rose Bride. Anthy does not want to concern Akio. Utena agrees to keep Anthy's secret and thinks Kanae is a nice girl. Kanae absolutely cannot involve herself in the Rose Bride, Duels and the End of the World, Utena says.

They run into Miki, and tell him about meeting with Akio and Kanae. Miki has discovered something disturbing in the reference room. Many years ago, 100 boys burned alive in Nemuro Memorial Hall! Can they believe it?





In a room lined with 100 pairs of shoes, Mikage tells Mamiya he deserves to be the Rose Bride. Mamiya suggests the Rose Groom would be more appropriate but Mikage prefers Bride. He swears to make Mamiya the true Rose Bride. Together they will gain the Power of Dios.

"Even End of the World recognises our potential..." Mikage says.

They must defeat Utena, take Anthy as the Rose Bride — and then kill Anthy. Mamiya, holding the black rose, agrees. For this plan to succeed, they need strong Duellists.

Kanae walks into the Nemuro Building. She rings a bell and asks about her interview, then following the signs to the Interview Room, Kanae passes through the door and into the elevator beyond.

Kanae confesses her sins to the window in the elevator as it descends into the basement. Next spring, as soon as she graduates, Kanae plans to marry the man her father selected for her. Akio, her fiancé, is very good to her. She

will do anything for him. Almost anything.

The exception concerns Akio's his sister Anthy. No matter what Kanae does, she does not like Anthy. Once, Kanae offered Anthy her best scarf, and Anthy cleaned her glasses with it. Kanae protested, but Anthy merely turned and smiled at Kanae with cold, dead eyes. Her father fell ill because Anthy visits so often. Kanae does not have the confidence to smile anymore. She has tried to like Anthy but her efforts have been futile.

The elevator stops. Mikage tells Kanae her only choice is to Revolutionise the World. "The path you must take has been prepared for you."

Kanae enters the room with the tombs and shoes — hallowed ground, a holy place where 100 Duellists sleep. A coffin opens and Mikage removes a Black Rose ring: a crest of a dead Duellist. Kanae turns to run but Mamiya's Black Rose has chosen her.

"This is your new heart," Mamiya says.

"I give the rose that blooms at the end of the world *to you!*" Mikage says.

Mamiya stabs Kanae with the rose. She screams. Mikage slides the Black Rose Crest on Kanae's finger.

Utena walks through the school halls with Wakaba, who wonders if anything exciting ever happens in the school. Utena opens her locker. Inside hangs a Duelling invitation.

As Utena steps onto the Duelling platform at sunset, she stops, stunned. Desks fill the Duelling Arena. A vase tops each desk and holds a single lily. Red figures cover the floor. Kanae stands among the desks, holding a sword and dressed in a modified Student Council uniform.

"Upon the Black Rose I swear I shall win this duel. And then kill the Rose Bride!" Kanae yells. Her eyes are flat and dead.

Having no choice, Utena draws the Sword of Dios from Anthy. The two girls fight among

the desks. Utena channels the Power of Dios and swiftly wins. The bells toll. The desks move to the far corners of the arena.

Kanae yells in rage. The Black Rose Crest breaks. Kanae's sword disappears.

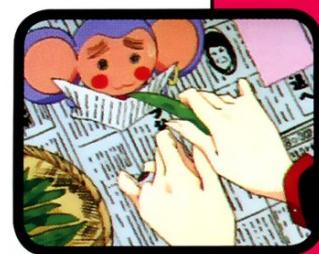
Kanae falls unconscious onto one of the red shadows on the floor.

In the basement beneath the Nemuro Building, a coffin falls into the flames. Kanae had no chance of beating Utena. An interesting experiment on Mikage's part, but she had no chance to win.

Back at home, Anthy leaves to visit her brother. Utena asks after Kanae. She wonders why Kanae cannot remember the duel. Anthy absolves Utena of guilt.

Chu-Chu does not accompany Anthy. He's afraid.

In the Planetarium, Anthy approaches Akio. She takes off her glasses and sets them on a nearby table. Akio beckons Anthy over, asking her if she missed him. The Planetarium lights.



Revolutionary Girl UTENA

EPISODE: 15



EPISODE 15: THE WORLD AS SEEN FROM KOZUE

Miki and Kozue are twins, but they are nothing alike. Kozue wants to possess Miki, heart and soul. When he gives his heart to Anthy, Kozue flies into rage. Mikage gives her the tool for her anger: a Black Rose Crest and a chance to revolutionise the world.

Miki walks toward the Music Room. On the way, he spies his sister flirting with some other boy. He stops.

Kozue, likewise, sees Miki. The unnamed boy asks Kozue if something is wrong. Kozue shakes her head, dismissing the idea.

Miki walks away.

Kozue watches the music teacher approach Miki with burning jealousy. The teacher wishes Miki well, and speaks with his pupil in private. They talk. Miki listens, nods, and laughs while Kozue seethes.

Later, at the Kiryuu home, Touga sits in a chair, listening to the same record repeatedly. Nanami pleads with him to eat. Touga is still. Nanami leaves the room, closes the door, leans against it, and sighs.

Nanami is crushed by Touga's depression. She resolves to do what she must to cure him. For her brother, she will take care of the Student Council.

In the basement of the Nemuro Building, Mikage and Mamiya lean over the case holding a Black Rose. "The swords strong enough to defeat Utena Tenjou may have crystallised inside of their hearts," Mikage says, alluding to the Student Council. Yet, they sit, defeated. Few are able to tap the power of their own hearts — especially young people. Mikage will entrust the power of their hearts to others. The fusion will result in strong Duellists — Duellists strong enough to defeat Utena Tenjou.

Mamiya points out that drawing the swords will require people who have a hold on the hearts of the Student Council members.

Kozue sits at the side of the school pool. Her friends beckon, and tease her about her newest boyfriend. Kozue shrugs. She did not change boyfriends; she just added a new one. Her friends writhe in jealousy and express their desire to meet Kazue's smart, handsome twin brother. Kozue complains bitterly to the girls about the girl Miki likes.

Miki mentally and emotionally prepares to knock on the door of Utena's dorm but then stops, unable to do it. He sighs.

As Miki dithers, Utena strolls up behind him, startling him. Miki claims to have been passing by with no ulterior motive but Utena ushers him into the room. Miki stutters out his innocence. Anthy greets him with a smile.

A few minutes later, Miki, Anthy, and Utena sit and eat lunch. Miki is terribly flustered. He finally asks Anthy to play the piano with him and asks permission to introduce Anthy to his music teacher.

Elsewhere, the music teacher trips and falls down a long, winding set of stairs, spilling sheets of music everywhere. Did he fall or was he pushed? Kozue stands smugly at the top of the stairs.

Jury tells Kozue that she heard rumours about a teacher who fell down the stairs. It was no accident. Someone pushed him. The victim himself was unsure until last night when he received a threatening phone call. Next time, the accident

would be much worse. Kozue is impressed. Jury knows everything — almost. Jury doesn't know that Kozue is the person who pushed the teacher. Kozue resents anyone who hurts her brother, at least anyone who is not Kozue.

That night, Kozue and Miki sit at home. Miki carries a tray into the bedroom bearing two milk shakes. He offers one to his sister. Kozue refuses. She has to watch her figure, after all. Miki drinks his.

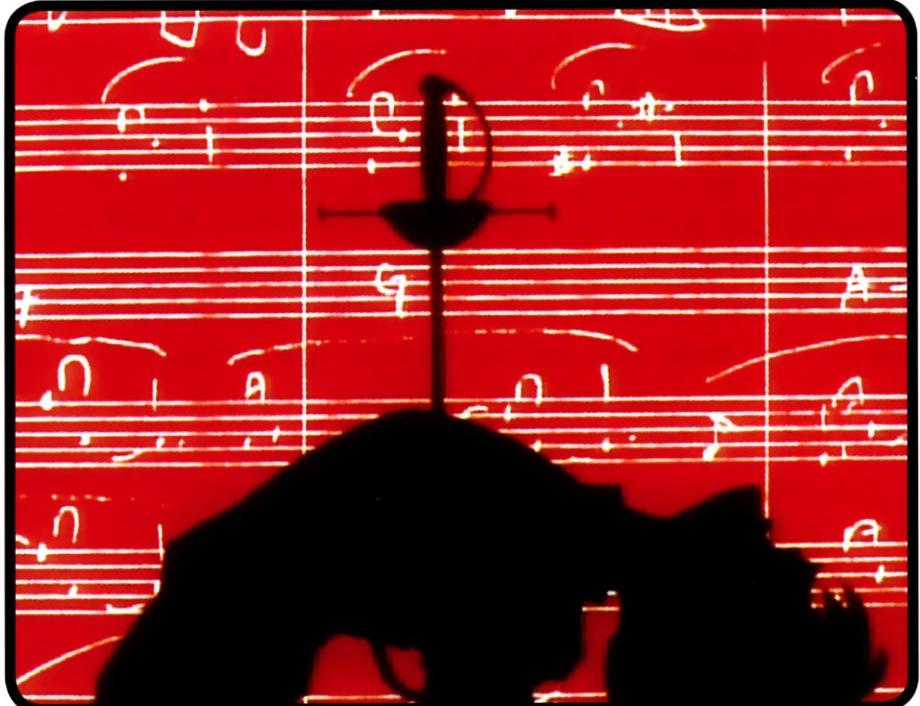
The next day, in the music room, Miki plays the Sunlit Garden side-by-side with Anthy. Utena listens for a bit and then spots Kozue, watching from the wings. Utena introduces herself, and comments on how Kozue and Miki are so alike.

"Miki and I are nothing alike," Kozue spits.

Kozue asks after Anthy. Utena offers to introduce them, but Kozue's eyes grow dark with anger.

The remnants of the Student Council meet. Nanami assumes Touga's seat. No one objects. Strangely, the Student Council has





not received any letters from End of the World lately. Perhaps End of the World abandoned them?

In the Planetarium, Utena sits alone with Akio and tells him about Miki's attraction to Anthy. Like any loyal brother, Akio worries about his sister but he takes comfort in his sister's happiness, especially if Anthy makes friends with nice girls like Utena. Akio hands Utena a small photographic slide of the moon. "You normally don't think about it and it doesn't serve any purpose," Akio says, "but still, from time to time, you look up at it. And it makes you feel better."

In the music room, Anthy stands up Miki on their practice date. Although Miki is punctual down to the second, Anthy is not and Miki waits, and waits, and waits. Kozue finds Miki asleep, head down on his arms on the keyboard. Kozue flashes back to the Sunlit Garden. She places her hand on Miki's head tenderly. For one moment, Kozue truly loves her brother.

Anthy opens the door, breaking the moment. Furious, Kozue accuses

Anthy of spying on Kozue and Miki, demanding to know if Anthy has anything to say.

"Say something?" Anthy asks.

With the yelling, Miki wakes. Anthy stopped by the greenhouse, she explains. Something about the roses came up. Miki shrugs in acceptance of Anthy's ways. Kozue spits in fury at how Anthy treats her brother.

Kozue goes to her interview at the Nemuro Building and rides the elevator.

Miki has always been good to her, Kozue explains. Yet, when she is disgraced, it hurts Miki terribly. She is all he will think about. Therefore, Kozue intentionally dates boys he will dislike. She intentionally dishonours herself. But, Miki's heart is going toward Anthy and away from her. Kozue cannot stand Miki's heart going to another girl. Miki's heart is hers.

Her only choice is to Revolutionise the World.

In the Music Room, someone plays. Miki walks in and stops,

surprised. Kozue sits at the keyboard playing the Sunlit Garden. Miki approaches. "Kozue..."

Kozue stops playing and rises. Her eyes are flat and dead. Her hand bears the Black Rose Seal. She lays her hand on Miki's face in a gesture of intense tenderness. Kozue leans forward to kiss him, and Miki jerks away in disgust. Kozue flashes her crest.

Miki gasps in disgust at the Black Rose Seal and clutches his chest. He leans back, wailing in pain. His sword, the foil, bursts from his chest.

Everyone clusters around the schedule for finals. Utena spots a Duelling invitation hanging on the wall.

Utena walks to the Duelling Arena at sunset. Kozue stands, waiting. The desks each hold a single milkshake.

Kozue falls into Miki's battle stance. The two girls fight. Utena tries to snap Kozue out of her trance, but Kozue only yells that Anthy must die.

While Kazue rants about the end of existence, Anthy seems unmoved and calmly drinks a milk shake.

Kozue disarms Utena with Miki's skill. Kozue makes a pass. Utena narrowly avoids it and pulls the Sword of Dios from Anthy's chest. Anthy blesses the Sword of Dios, and the Power of Dios possesses Utena. Utena, fully armed, defeats Kozue. Kozue collapses unconscious to the floor.

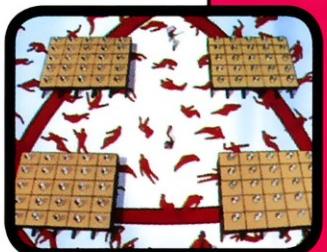
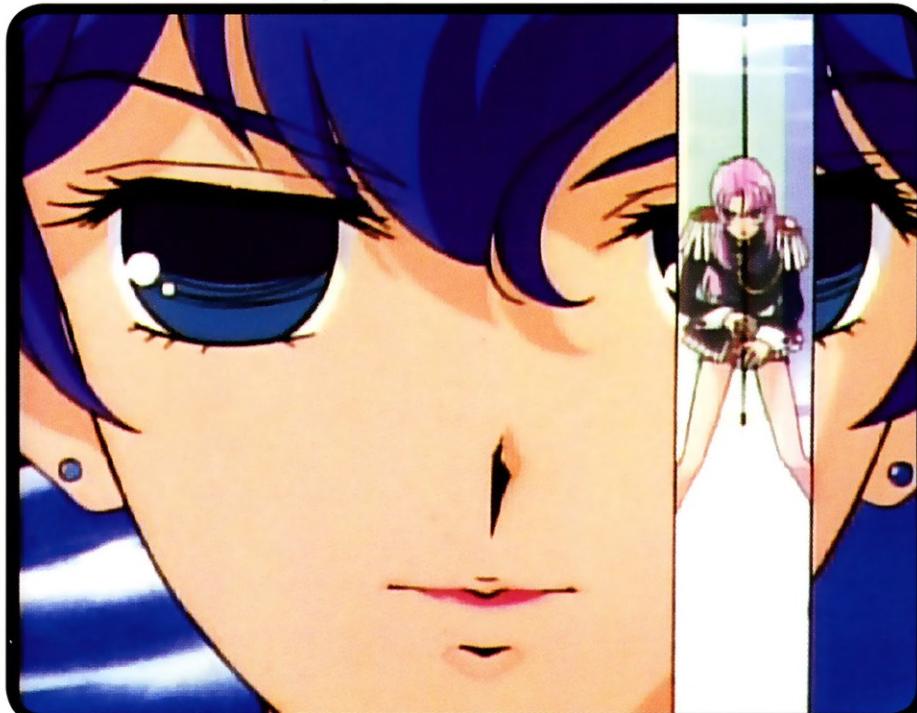
"All for her brother..." Utena says.

After the duel, Miki wakes on the floor of the Music Room and calls weakly for Kozue.

The coffin representing Kozue falls into the flames beneath the Nemuro Building.

Miki asks Kozue about the Black Rose Crest, but she does not remember a thing. Kozue believes she fainted from anaemia. Miki tends to his sister, and Kozue requests a milkshake.

Utena gazes at the moon while Anthy visits Akio.





EPISODE 16: COWBELL OF HAPPINESS

When Jury arrives at Nanami's party wearing highly fashionable jewellery, Nanami dons... a cowbell? The cowbell has magical properties — anyone who wears it will slowly transform into a cow. Only cows wear cowbells but Nanami would rather be the talk of the school and a cow than be human and unpopular!

Anthy watches an ad for very fashionable and luxurious jewellery designer, Sebastian Dior on late night television, fascinated by the elegance and beauty of the jewellery. Anthy accidentally wakes Utena, who asks her not to stay up too late.

The next night Nanami throws an exclusive party at the Kiryuu mansion. All the rich students attend, and Nanami glows in her fashionable designer gown. Her three minions worship her with phrases of adulation. ". Nanami dismisses their praise. This gown is merely a gift from her uncle. The minions admire her ring — and her shoes, and her earrings. Nanami just scoffs.

The party celebrates the crown jewel of Nanami's

jewellery collection — a 20-carat diamond pendant. Once her guests see it, Nanami is convinced the whole room will be in awe.

Then Jury strolls in, showing off a sparkling designer necklace, a one of a kind original from Soliya Rich the luxury designer brand. Jury did a little modelling for one of the Soliya Rich designers who gave Jury the necklace as a gift. Nanami, in a fit of jealous rage, destroys her 20-carat diamond pendant.

Jury asks Nanami why she spontaneously threw a party. Miki wants to know, too. Just as Nanami starts concocting a well-crafted lie, a shining, golden chest arrives, couched on a silk pillow. The logo on the top of the chest is clearly

Sebastian Dior — the most luxurious brand used by the British Family!

The gift is Nanami's savoir — and her way to bloody Jury's nose. "The reason I invited you here today is to show you the collection I just received!" Nanami announces.

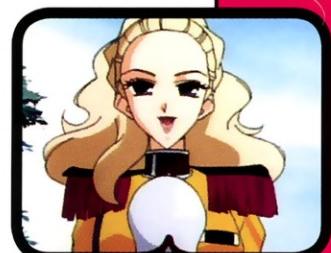
As the crowd stands watching, breathless, Nanami opens the chest to discover a shining gold cowbell. Nanami dons it, then poses proudly. The crowd is taken aback but no one argues because it is, after all, a Sebastian Dior cowbell. Nanami interprets their silence as praise. The next day, Nanami wears her Student Council uniform with cowbell to school. Utene whispers to Miki that the cowbell is weird, pointing out that cowbells are for cows. Nanami's schoolmates are unable to convey this point to the fashion-struck young girl.

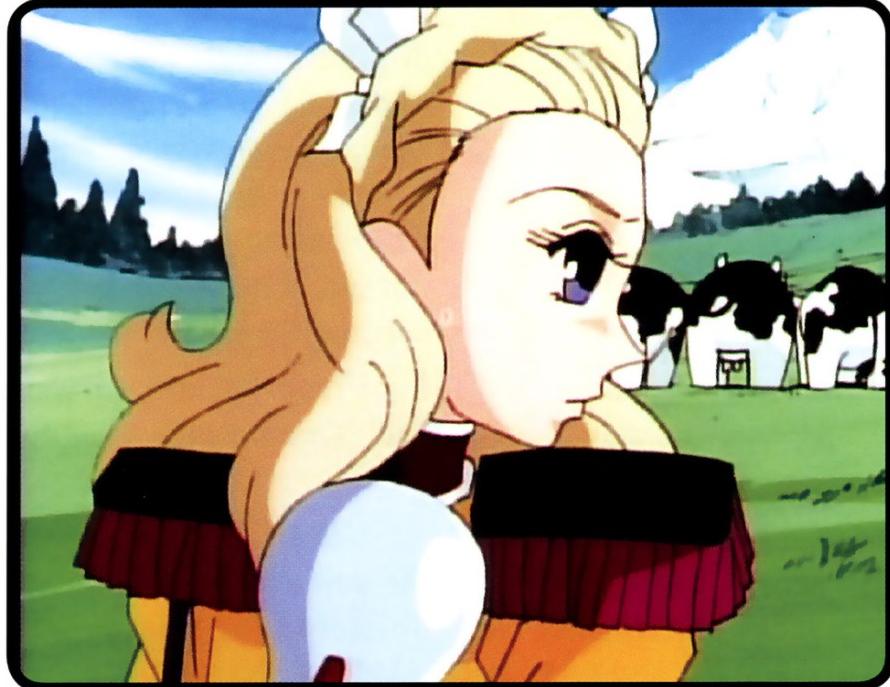
The school councillor demands to know what Nanami is wearing around her neck. "Nanami cheerfully proclaims it to be a designer cowbell. Oblivious to the councillor' reaction, Nanami wanders off, admiring the day.

Utene decides to wait until Nanami figures it out for herself.

Nanami plays tennis with the cowbell, her confidence bolstered by the ornate jewellery. Nanami has her portrait painted while wearing the cowbell. She arranges flowers, and eats alone in the school cafeteria — all while contentedly wearing the cowbell.

Mitsuru offers Nanami a service of tea. He asks if the cowbell is a little heavy, and adds that the cowbell is, in his elementary school kid opinion, totally weird. Nanami dismisses





him. Mitsuru is too young to have an adult's fashion sense.

Utena backs up Mitsuru, arguing that regardless of the brand, a cow bell is a very unusual choice of adornment. Before Utena can get any further, Suzuki, Yamada and Tanaka muzzle Utena. Nanami laughs in derision and calls Utena a boy-girl. Nanami criticises Utena's uniform — it's very weird as well. Utena is in no position to criticise Nanami's fashion sense.

That night, Nanami has a strange, possibly prophetic dream. She dreams of waking in a barn to discover her shadow is that of a cow. In the dream, her brother Touga offers her a meal, her final meal. After feeding Nanami hay for breakfast, Dream Touga imprisons her in a cage, bidding Nanami farewell as she is carried off for slaughter. Nanami wakes from the dream

in a start, and ponders the significance of the dream.

While Girls gossip about Nanami's cowbell behind her back, Nanami begins to adopt the characteristics of a cow. She hauls heavy weights while wearing a cow patterned outfit and mooing. Later, she stands in line placidly.

Nanami sits beneath a tree and eats, and eats, and eats. Mitsuru criticises Nanami. "It's my choice if I want to eat mooooore." Nanami insists. She refuses to go to class. She will sit here on the grass, eat and take a nap.

"People who just eat and sleep turn into cows, you know!" Mitsuru yells.

As the day goes by, Nanami adopts more cow-related accessories and her behaviour becomes increasingly cow-like, a fact that is commented on by her schoolmates, although

the significance of the changes appears to elude them.

In Utena's room, Anthy snoozes. Anthy wakes by a knock on the door. It is Mitsuru, and he is out of breath. He needs their help with Nanami.

Utена, Anthy, and Mitsuru run to the park where they find Nanami on all fours, grazing like a cow.

Utena orders Nanami to remove the cowbell now! Nanami demands they leave her alone.

Utena argues with Nanami, stressing the fact that the jewellery is a bell for cows, not people, urging Nanami to look around her. Nanami is surrounded by cows and her minions, Suzuki, Yamada and Tanaka are wearing cow suits.

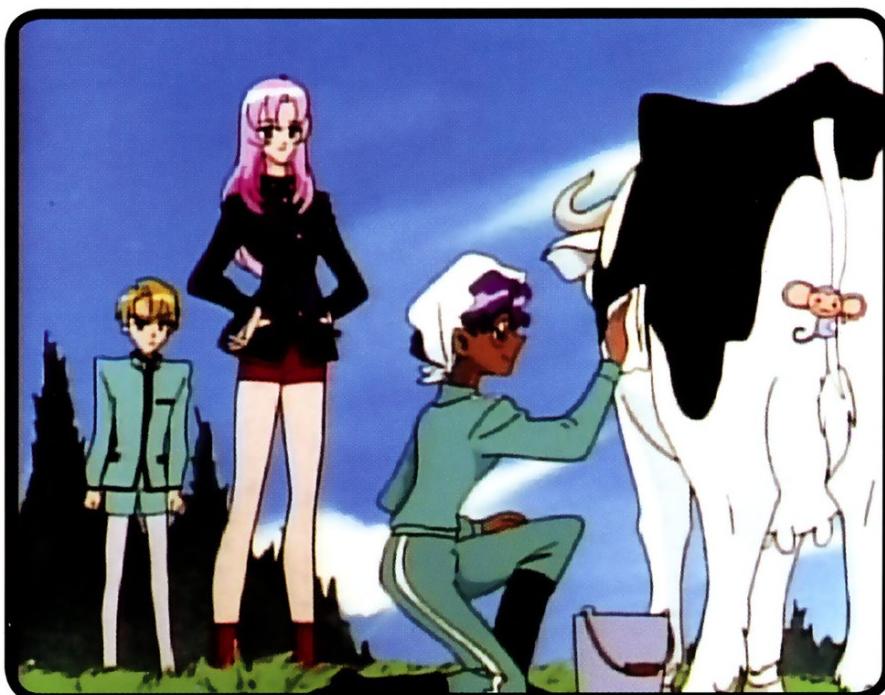
Utena points out the truth: the bell is Cow-stian Dior, not Sebastian Dior. It is turning Nanami into a cow.

Anthy finally finishes knitting a red sweater. She hands it to Utena and the red enrages Nanami, who morphs into a cow. Nanami charges the red sweater!

To restore Nanami to her true shape, Utena has to get the cowbell from around Nanami's neck somehow. Mitsuru tosses a pitchfork to Utena, who uses it to deftly flip the enchanted cowbell from around Nanami's neck. Nanami collapses, returned to her human form.

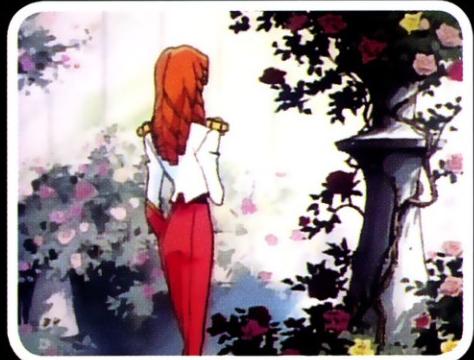
"How pathetic. The final days of one possessed by brand names," Jury, bedecked in jewels, says. Miki wonders who sent Nanami the cowbell in the first place.

Investigation reveals that the cowbell was intended for Anthy's cow, Nanami. The mailman delivered it to the wrong person. A new nose ring is supposed to arrive any day now...

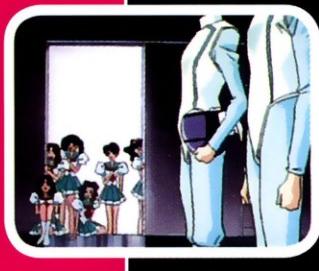




EPISODE: 17



EPISODE 17: The Thorns of Death



Years ago, Shiori betrayed Jury by running off with a boy. Now Shiori returns to Ohtori Academy and wants Jury's forgiveness. When Jury is slow to forgive and long to remember, Shiori finds herself riding the elevator and facing her jealousy and hatred. It leads her to the Duelling Arena.

In the Rose Garden, Jury gazes at her picture of Shiori, hidden in her locket. *Believe in miracles and they will know your feelings.*

"You were so cruel. The miracle never happened."

"You must hate me for what I've done," the voice of Shiori rings in Jury's head. Jury does hate Shiori.

Anthy looks on.

Later, in the fencing practice room, Jury defeats her team members. Others watch and applaud — including Utenea, who admires Jury's form. Jury easily defeats Miki, and she scolds him. Jury's eyes go to the source of Miki's distraction — Anthy, watching from the balcony. Jury stops short. Jury has no actual interest in Anthy. The person Jury actually spots on the balcony next to Anthy is Shiori.

Utenea and Anthy have never seen Shiori before. Utenea squirms with curiosity.

After the match, Jury sits in the locker room, while Utenea and Anthy chat with Shiori.

Shiori attended Ohtori until Middle School. She had to transfer for a while, but she returned. She started in the dorms just that day. Utenea asks Shiori about Jury. Shiori explains that they grew up together. They were like sisters. "Jury was always so wonderful," Shiori says. Strong and imposing, Jury always protected her. "Jury was my only true friend. But now... I don't deserve a friend like that."

Utenea presses the issue, but Shiori does not answer.

At the Nemuro Building, Mamiya tends a black rose. He pricks his finger on a thorn, and draws a small drop of blood. Mikage accuses Mamiya of hurting himself on purpose. "We need the thorns from this rose, don't we?" Mamiya says.

With rose thorns more beautiful and more dangerous than

anything else, they will defeat Utena Tenjou. How will they harvest the thorns? The rose has a natural parasitic enemy. They will use the enemy's poison.

Jury stands off alone, eyes staring a million miles into the distance, her hand over her pendant.

The Student Council meets. They discuss Kozue pulling the sword from Miki, and the mysterious Black Rose Crest. A third party is clearly after the Rose Bride. Nanami dismisses the entire episode, but Miki thinks they face a threat they cannot ignore. Nanami demands to know how Kozue caught Miki so off guard.

Nanami also asks Miki about the stopwatch, but Miki avoids that specific question.

Nanami is curious. She wants to know what it felt like to have a sword pulled out of Miki's chest. She bets it hurt. Miki wants to know how to respond to this threat. He consults Jury, but she is off in the clouds.

Jury goes down the elevator, looking at her picture of Shiori. She

remembers what happened between Jury, Shiori, and the boy.

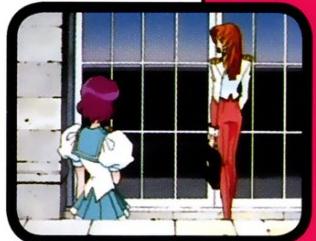
Jury remembers running into Shiori in the courtyard. Shiori wanted to talk, but Jury turned away. Shiori asks her not to go.

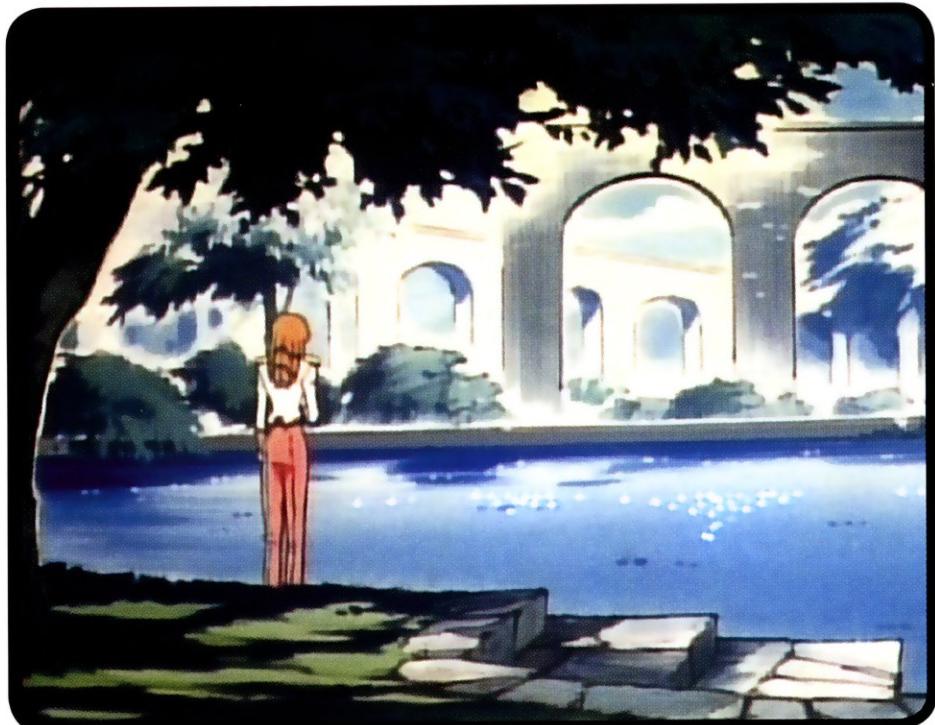
Later, they meet on a parapet of one of the towers. In the end, Shiori and the boy went their separate ways. Shiori cannot escape that she stole someone away that Jury loved. Shiori wants things to go back to how they were, before she betrayed Jury. Shiori wants to be friends again. They have so many happy memories, she and Jury.

"Is that all you have to say to me? If so, then excuse me." Jury turns, but before Jury can walk away, a bird runs into the glass door and hurts its wing. Jury stops and gazes down at the hurt bird. "I have no feelings for him at all," Jury says flatly. Jury has no hard feelings for Shiori now. Or so she claims.

"Then whose picture have you kept locked in your pendant?" Shiori asks.

Jury does not answer. She just walks away.





Shiori contemplates the wounded bird.

Jury meets Utena and Anthy at the bottom of the stairs. Utena asks after Shiori, and asks Jury to find forgiveness. Jury compares Utena to Shiori. "So cruelly innocent."

Jury then orders Utena to mind her own business and walks away.

Later, in the Planetarium at the top of the Tower, Utena tells Akio about Jury. Akio calls Utena "Innocent and pure," and warns Utena that, "Such innocence can hurt other people."

Jury showers. *Believe in miracles..*

Mikage ponders poison and the thorns.

Jury sits by the pond's edge. After a long moment of contemplation, she stands, pulls off her pendant and throws it into the water. She still does not believe in miracles.

Shiori walks to her dorm room. Some girls gossip down the hall. Shiori pushes the door open and notices a strange breeze. Somehow,

the window of her room has opened a crack. As Shiori reaches to close the window, she knocks over a vase of roses and finds Jury's pendant, still wet from its sojourn to the bottom of the pond.

Moments later in the Nemuro Building, Shiori sits in the interview hall, where she gives a self-contradictory account of her relationship with Jury.

Shiori hated Jury since they were children. Jury is talented, beautiful, and popular. Shiori was intensely jealous. She wanted to rob Jury of something precious.

No, that's not it. Jury was always so kind. Jury was just being cruel! Being kind out of sympathy! It seems so pathetic! Yet, what Shiori did with the boy made Shiori feel even more pathetic than before!

Now they are equal. No, Shiori has beaten Jury. She's the one who has been in Jury's heart! "I can just see her, alone and miserable, looking at my picture!"

Shiori's testimony ends with Shiori in hysterics, lamenting how matters are between her and Jury.

Mikage offers what he claims is the only solution, revolutionising the world.

Jury practices in the fencing room. Shiori approaches and holds up the pendant.

"Then you saw... inside?" Jury asks.

"If you'd asked, Jury," Shiori says, "I would have given you a nicer picture. I always thought you were so strong, and yet now you seem so weak."

Shiori pulls the sword from Jury's chest.

Another invitation hangs in Utена's locker.

At sunset, Utena enters the Duelling Arena. The arena is full of desks with birds on perches — identical to the bird that ran into the glass window. Shiori stands with Jury's sword.

"I found myself." Shiori says. "The real me. Not the pathetic loser who cowered in the shadow of Jury's brilliance."

Utena pulls the Sword of Dios. Utena and Shiori fight. Shiori fights with Jury's moves and some of the skill, while spitting invectives. Utena summons the Power of Dios and ends the fight swiftly and mercifully.

Shiori screams and collapses into a red outline.

Another coffin falls into the fire. "Another failure, but the parasite's venom is effective," Mikage says.

Jury wakes and gets off the floor of the practice room. By her hand lies her pendant.

The next day, Shiori's friends want to know why she dumped her old boyfriend....

Utena thinks the ordeal changed Shiori for the better.

"No," Anthy says. "Shiori has not changed. Not at heart."

Shiori passes Jury on the path to school and just walks on.

Jury wonders why she cannot be stronger.





EPISODE 18: MITSURU'S IMPATIENCE

Mitsuru cannot wait to be an adult, convinced that if only he was older, Nanami would love him. Mitsuru the little kid is not worthy of Nanami's consideration. He looks for the answer in friends, books, movies, and even in Mikage's elevator in the Nemuro Building. With Nanami's blades, he faces Utена in the Duelling Arena.

The Student Council meets.

"Somewhere, in some secret place, new Duellists are taking action."

"We've been abandoned, haven't we?"

Jury, Miki, and Nanami stand in the rain.

"End of the World may have a new plan," Jury says.

Understanding dawns on Nanami. The Black Rose duellists got to Jury. Nanami, deathly curious, questions Jury about the particulars, like what it felt like to have a sword drawn from her chest. Jury brushes Nanami away.

Mitsuru enters the sacred Student Council chamber to deliver Nanami's books. The Student Council stares.

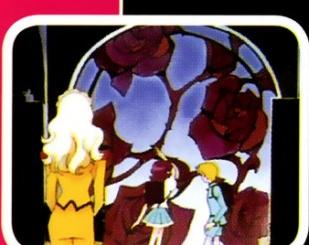
"Only council members are allowed up here, Nanami!" Miki says.

Nanami is Council President and if she wants Mitsuru to wait

on her at meetings, she is within her Presidential prerogative. Jury warns Nanami to watch her back. As Jury and Miki leave, Mitsuru asks to perform other tasks for Nanami, but Nanami is preoccupied. "It is grown-up talk," Nanami says as she dismisses him.

Elsewhere, in the rain, Chu-Chu chases a snail. Utena and Anthy stand in the Rose Garden, discussing the roses. Utena spots Nanami through the glass, with Mitsuru trailing after her. Utena wonders aloud about Mitsuru efforts to gain Nanami's affections. Anthy thinks he enjoys it.

In the school hallway, Mitsuru's friend Mari yells at him. "She doesn't appreciate you at all, does she?" Mitsuru makes defensive noises. Mari insists Mitsuru needs a normal, healthy relationship. They quarrel. When Mitsuru makes a crack about Mari's immature body she slaps him across the face.



Nanami witnesses the end of the argument. As Mari runs off, Nanami demands an update. Mitsuru gives an embarrassed explanation.

Outside, it still rains. Nanami drills Mitsuru about his friends. Mitsuru admits he likes Mari. Nanami sneers. "Is she your girlfriend?"

At the elementary school dormitory, while Mitsuru ties his shoes, Mari picks through nearby bags. "What is this? Gonna throw a party?" Mari asks.

Mitsuru shoos Mari away. This is Nanami's lunch! Mari pilfers a candy bar out of a bag and takes a big bite, relishing the chocolate. She swallows and says, "No matter what you do for her, she's just going to use you up and then leave you." Mari calls Nanami a black widow spider. Mitsuru defends Nanami without persuading Mari, who knows Nanami's type. Mari exits, leaving with the half-eaten candy bar sitting behind on a nearby counter.

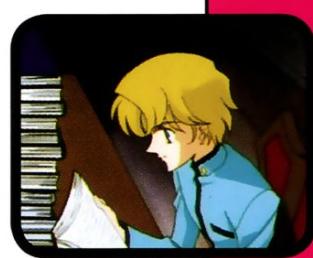
Mitsuru starts to eat the candy bar but then stops because Mari's lips have touched the candy bar and Mitsuru does not want even indirect contact between his lips and Mari's.

Mitsuru carries the boxed lunch through the empty gardens of Ohtori Academy to Nanami's favourite lunch spot but Nanami is not there. He searches all her normal haunts. Finally, Mitsuru finds Nanami talking to Mikage.

Nanami dismisses Mitsuru, as she is talking to someone "important." Migake, she explains, runs the famous Mikage Seminar. He invited Nanami to join, and, of course, she will. Mikage and Nanami head off to lunch together, leaving Mitsuru behind standing, futilely, in the rain, dismissed as a mere child.

Dry and in the library, Mitsuru buries himself behind piles of books, convinced that the answer must be in them somewhere.

Utena watches Mitsuru work through some tough books. Mitsuru demands to know what it means to be grown up. Utена, surprised by both the question and the force of the query, turns to Anthy. Utena thinks being grown up means having experience in certain things — although what things, she hesitates to say. Mitsuru latches on to the idea that if he gets experience, he'll be grown up.





"Have you done anything adult, Miss Utena?" Mitsuru asks.

Anthy says there are some grown up things about herself and Utena. Some things they have done.

In the Planetarium, Utena asks Akio about her Prince. She explains: a younger student asked her the difference between being a kid and being grown up, and she wonders which she is. She does not know which she is. She never really understood the difference.

Akio explains: as the stars age, they lose their shine. It is the same for people. To Utena, Akio is shining his brightest right now — with his fiancée.

Mamiya stands over a Black Rose. Mikage asks Mamiya to come out, but the rain depresses Mamiya. He finds darkness relaxing. Mikage presents Mitsuru as the next Duellist. He's a tough bud, but with a little encouragement, he will bloom.

Movies about love play in an endless loop in the campus's small theatre. Mitsuru studies the clips. "I just need experience, and then I'll be grown up," he says to himself.

Mari slips in through the back door and joins Mitsuru. She watches the movies curiously. He is studying adulthood, Mitsuru claims. Mari laughs at him. "A guy who has one real kiss is more adult than someone who has watched a hundred kiss scenes!"

"One real kiss..." Mitsuru says.

"This is going to end badly." Mari proclaims the situation is weird. Suddenly, Mitsuru holds Mari's hand and he tries to kiss her.

Mari slaps him.

Nanami watches Mari run off.

In Mitsuru's dormitory room, the remains of the boxed lunch rots forgotten in Mitsuru's trash pail. Mitsuru sits, miserable, on the lower bunk of his bunk bed. Dejected, he throws the last of the candy bar away.

Nanami knocks on his door. As Mitsuru opens it, Nanami demands to know about the screening room. Mitsuru was with a girl. Nanami is jealous.

What if Mitsuru does like Mari? He wants to grow up. He wants to do the fun things grown-ups do. He tires of being a kid.

Nanami likes him the way he is.

Mamiya picks the rose.

Mitsuru goes down the elevator.

It's about Miss Nanami. She's so pretty. Mitsuru's always looked up to her. He just wants to be with her. But now just being with her isn't enough anymore. Worse, Mari has been bugging him. He's sick of being thought of as a kid. He wants to be all grown up. He wants to be an adult. "I want to wreck everything!"

He has no choice but to revolutionise the world.

Mitsuru beckons Nanami to the screening room. As she sits and watches the clips, Mitsuru puts his hand on hers. Then, completely unexpected, Mitsuru yanks the double swords from Nanami's chest with great gasping and heaving and pain.

Utena finds the duelling invitation hung in her locker. Once again she climbs the long stairs up to the Duelling Arena.

Statues holding candy bars with one bite out of them stand

on the desks. Mitsuru handles the double swords with a skill not his own. With hardly a warning, he starts his first pass.

Utena draws the Sword of Dios from Anthy's chest.

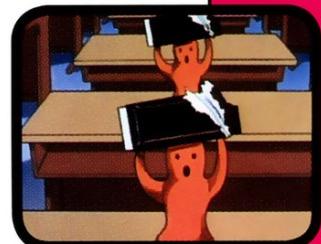
They fight. Mitsuru is convinced that to become an adult, he must defeat the adults ahead of him. Utena must fall.

Utena channels the Power of Dios. She disarms Mitsuru. He pulls the dagger from the holster. Although Mitsuru tries to continue the fight, Utena defeats Mitsuru, and ends the duel.

Mitsuru yells, the Black Rose Seal breaks, and he collapses onto one of the outlines on the floor, unconscious.

The coffin falls into the fire.

The next morning, Nanami walks to school. Mitsuru catches up. Nanami gazes down at him, for the first time, with a tinge of fondness. Mari runs, catches up to the two, and runs past. Then, taking his leave, Mitsuru runs to catch up to Mari, leaving Nanami to stand on the path alone.



Revolutionary Girl UTENA

EPISODE: 19



EPISODE 19: A Song for a Kingdom Now Lost

Wakaba once had a Prince — the Onion Prince. The Prince left a long time ago, but now he has returned to Ootori Academy to be Wakaba's Prince once again. Unfortunately, Wakaba has found a new Prince, a better Prince, and she wants to keep her Prince to herself in secret.

Wakaba and Utena sit beneath a tree for lunch. A boy approaches and introduces himself as Tatsuya Kazami. Nervously, he hands a love letter to Utena. Wakaba snatches it away. She peers at the love letter, thinks about the name, and recognises Tatsuya as her old Onion Prince, from elementary school.

Tatsuya gasps in surprise, since it has been many years since Wakaba and he last saw each other.

On the way home, Wakaba sings and fans herself with the love letter meant for Utena. Utena asks Wakaba about Mr. Onion Prince. Wakaba offers to return the letter to Tatsuya, but Utena refuses. Tatsuya handed the note to Utena, so Utena should be the one to turn down his advances.

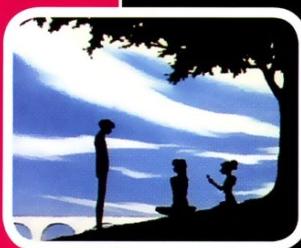
Wakaba warns Utena to watch her step. The Onion Prince is a smooth talker. He always chases after pretty girls. He is a total playboy; the sort who gives guys everywhere a bad name. Wakaba accuses Tatsuya of

cruelty because he transferred away suddenly without warning Wakaba. "Once upon a time," she explains, "that boy was my... prince..."

In elementary school, the girls call Wakaba "Onion Head". Wakaba has no fear, as the uncertain Onion Prince stands at her side. It was a long time ago.

Later in class, someone calls Wakaba's name. She looks up, and the Onion Prince lifts a hand. She smiles for a brief moment and then is struck with jealousy when Tatsuya talks to other girls.

Wakaba later delivers the letter back to Tatsuya, informing him harshly that he is not Utena's type. Tatsuya sighs in defeat and blames Wakaba for sticking him with a weird nickname like the Pumpkin Prince. Wakaba has embarrassed Tatsuya. Wakaba corrects Tatsuya. She did not call him the Pumpkin Prince but the Onion Prince. Tatsuya finds that title even worse than "Pumpkin Prince".



Wakaba is offended by Tatsuya's reaction, because the title was special to Wakaba. It is an important memory, one that Wakaba cherishes.

Tatsuya insists Wakaba introduce him to Utena again. Wakaba concedes in exasperation but offers to provide nothing more than an introduction. Anything else Tatsuya will have to do on his own.

The Student Council meets. Nanami asks Miki to play the piano at her party tomorrow. Miki agrees. Jury teases Miki about his fascination with Anthy. Miki blushes furiously. Nanami sneers — he doesn't have to think about *her* every time he performs, does he?

Miki envies Nanami because Miki thinks Nanami's desires are being met by an elementary school kid. Nanami corrects Miki. Nanami only feels true love for her big brother.

"So every other man is just a bottom feeder to you? Is that it?" Miki asks.

Both Miki and Nanami truly love someone, Jury observes — it is

a shame neither one can change who they love. If they could, they both would be much happier.

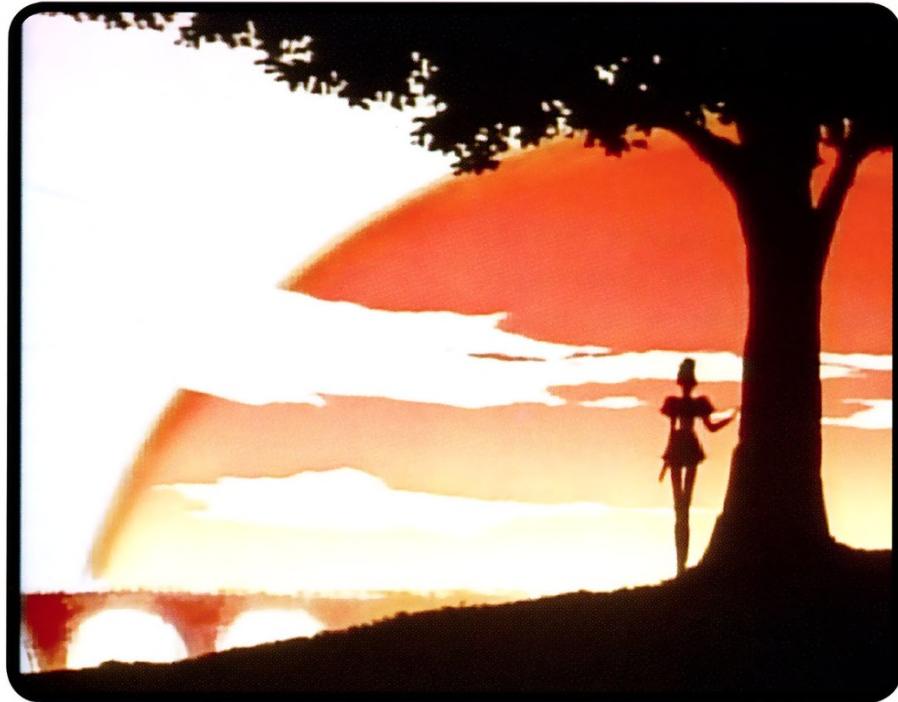
Nanami and Miki both stare at Jury. Jury smiles and says, "And so would I."

Utena, Anthy and Akio drink tea in the Planetarium and chat. Utena wonders if Tatsuya is Wakaba's Prince. Utena thinks neither Tatsuya nor Wakaba are being honest with each other. Akio believes the contents of a person's heart are veiled, as though with thin silk. You may think you can peer into it, but you cannot, really. A person who is a Prince to one person may not be the prince other people keep in their hearts. "Still," Akio says, "I am a bit jealous to see young people in love. Still, I hope you will find your prince, soon... Anthy."

"I will, Big Brother." Anthy smiles.

Utena, Anthy and Wakaba sit in the cafeteria. Utena advises Wakaba to humour Tatsuya and Wakaba bites back a retort. Utena concedes: "I'm willing to do someone a favour." Just as Wakaba





demands to know what *that* means, Tatsuya approaches the trio.

He is tardy, and apologises. Utena introduces Anthy and Chu-Chu. Wakaba complains bitterly that Tatsuya has not changed. Tatsuya asks Wakaba why she keeps accusing him of various maladies.

"Because, I'm..." Wakaba flashes back to the past. "Because... never mind! It's nothing!"

Tatsuya orders her to say it. Wakaba gestures to Utena. "You wanted to talk to Utena, right?"

Tatsuya sits at the table, and asks Utena if she is dating anyone. Utena is not, but she dreams of her Prince. Her dream, Tatsuya says, is romantic. Utena agrees, but says, "It looks to me like there's a princess not too far from you who is thinking about her own prince. Right, Wakaba?"

Wakaba is appalled.

"Well, you do dream about your Onion Prince, don't you?" Utena asks.

"That's different!" Wakaba yells. "My Prince isn't a dream! My Prince..." She looks over at Tatsuya.

They eye each other longingly. Wakaba runs away.

Utena explains to Tatsuya that Wakaba met her own prince a long time ago, and she has not forgotten him. Tatsuya admits that he sought out Wakaba the moment he transferred back. Yet, Wakaba is happy with Utena. If Tatsuya is with Utena, he is with Wakaba. He wrote the love letter to give to Utena so Utena would hand it to Wakaba, and the three could be together. He thought she called him the Onion Prince to make fun of him. He was wrong.

You do not always understand what people mean and what makes someone a prince in someone else's heart, Utena explains. It is time for him to tell her what he feels. Tatsuya stands, bows, and leaves.

Utena wonders to Anthy if it is going to work out between Tatsuya and Wakaba. Utena opens her locker to discover a note from Wakaba saying, "UTENA, YOU'RE MEAN."

Wakaba stands beneath a tree. Tatsuya finds courage and asks Wakaba about her Prince.

She blushes and explains her love. Tatsuya asks Wakaba to be honest, and asks if she knows how her Prince feels. Wakaba realises she loves her Prince, and if God is on her side, her Prince will turn around and notice her. Then, she can find happiness.

Tatsuya puts his hand on Wakaba's shoulder, and promises her happiness. She asks if he can keep a secret. He can.

"I can't believe I'm finally finding happiness!" Wakaba says. "And I hope you find happiness with someone, someday, too!"

Wakaba strolls off to go see her Prince.

The bells toll.

Tatsuya walks to the Nemuro Building, beaten. He rings the bell at the desk, but no one answers. He follows the signs to the interview room, but no one comes. He does not have an appointment. He descends the elevator anyway.

Tatsuya had heard the rumours that, when things go wrong, he can come to the elevator and receive

counselling. He has liked this girl for a very long time. She is like a princess to him. When he tried to tell her about his feelings, she ran away to another boy. He is sure this other guy is just using her. Wakaba is so beautiful and young and innocent, there is no telling what this other fellow might do to her. He may even do *that* to her!

It does not matter. Tatsuya loves her and true love always wins out in the end. Tatsuya knows he can make Wakaba happy.

He stands and yells, "Why am I no good?!"

Mikage says, "You are a truly good person," as Tatsuya cries. "That's why the path you must take does not lie here. Leave now. This is no place for someone like you."

Wakaba runs to her dorm room where her Prince waits. She presses her back to her dorm room door. "I'm back," she breathes.

Saionji turns and says, "Welcome back home."





EPISODE: 20



EPISODE 20: WAKABA FLOURISHING

Wakaba feels special because she hides Saionji in her dormitory room. She shines. She excels in school. Unfortunately, Saionji does not love her back. He loves Anthy Himemaya. The first chance he gets, he betrays Wakaba's feelings, and drives her to the waiting arms of the Black Rose Circle.

Wakaba walks through the town to her dorm. She opens the door and gazes upon casually dressed Saionji sitting beneath the window. He greets her. "Welcome back home."

Wakaba sits at the table, washes dishes and makes small talk with Saionji. He apologises for imposing. Although Saionji promised that he would not stay long, he persists in hanging around. Wakaba offers to make him coffee.

After Saionji's expulsion, he had nowhere to go. Swallowing his pride Saionji crawled back to campus and Wakaba hid him.

Saionji must leave before he causes Wakaba any trouble. Wakaba begs him to stay. She wants him around and vows that somehow, she will get him back into school. Saionji crumbles. He grasps her hands and thanks her for taking him in. She struggles to escape.

A knock interrupts them. Saionji hides. One of Wakaba's dorm

mates stands smiling. The other girl notices Wakaba sweating and heard talking. When the other girl asks what was going on, Wakaba claims to be very religious. The sound was Wakaba praying.

The other girl flees.

Wakaba closes the door with relief. Saionji scurries from beneath the bed and flips back his beautiful hair back. They sit, drink coffee, talk and laugh.

This is my secret, Wakaba thinks. Mine and his. Wakaba dreamed of Saionji. He was a distant dream she could never reach. Yet now...

Wakaba is too busy to watch Utene play basketball, or hang out with the other kids. She runs home, feeling special. She has this secret. She lives in her happy haze.

As Wakaba packs her homework for the day, Utene leans against the chalkboard, and asks Wakaba if something good happened lately. Utene noticed Wakaba has been very cheerful.



Prettier, too. Wakaba offhandedly dismisses Utena's observations.

Utena takes her worries about Wakaba to Akio. Wakaba seems very different suddenly. Akio asks, "Like a goddess whose name is in the stars?"

Utena wonders why Wakaba would seem prettier.

Akio explains that because of Utena's basic nature, she is incapable of understanding Wakaba's situation. There are special people in the world, people who draw attention to themselves without effort. Utena is one, a girl with a special destiny. Utena is not cognisant of her own true nature. Most people exist as one among many but given a chance, they can shine.

Saionji eats while reading the back of the carving kit he bought with 500 yen. Wakaba asks Saionji what he's making. A secret, he says.

Utena tells Akio that all she ever wanted is for Wakaba to be happy.

Wakaba offers Saionji coffee with sugar. Saionji holds up a small, carved wooden leaf hair clip.

Akio replies: But it is said that the time a person can be special does not last very long.

Saionji apologises for the unfinished clip, but this is the only way he can thank Wakaba for her devotion. The hair clip is perfect the way it is, says Wakaba.

Wakaba delivers the latest gossip to Saionji. Touga Kiryuu is still absent from school. Nanami is filling in for her brother. Miki does all he can to help Nanami. Jury is the same as always. Saionji asks after Anthy.

Wakaba shops, taking her anger out on some pre-packaged meat. If Saionji stops living with her, Wakaba thinks, he will forget about her, as if she never existed.

Mamiya picks the black rose.

Saionji finishes the hair clip. He gazes out the window at the sunset. Mikage congratulates Saionji for living well. Saionji is surprised and demands to know how Mikage gained entry to the room and how he knew Saionji was there in the first place.





"No secret on campus, no matter how small escapes the notice of the Black Rose Circle," Mikage says. Mikage then offers his sympathy to Saionji, who is reduced to living off the good graces of a Middle School girl.

Saionji replies that he does not intend to spend the rest of his life taking refuge in this small room. He has a plan that will allow him to return to Ootori Academy.

Mikage would love to know the details. He offers to help Saionji get back to school, claiming to be concerned, along with the rest of the Black Rose Circle, about the school's future. Saionji asks Mikage what price Mikage wants in return. Mikage only wishes one thing of Saionji's but he assures Saionji that the item is minor, "hardly anything."

Wakaba passes Anthy, who wears the Saionji-made hair clip.

Wakaba sits in the elevator in the Nemuro Building and talks.

No matter what she does for him, no matter how she thinks of him, in the end, *she's* the only one he cares about! *She* thinks that she is so special that she can steal everything

away from Wakaba! No matter what, Wakaba cannot forgive her. No matter how hard Wakaba loves or how hard Wakaba studies all she will ever be is a face in the crowd. Special people may as well live in another world! As long as Wakaba had Saionji, as long as Saionji lived with Wakaba, Wakaba was special, too! A little longer with him, and Wakaba would have changed herself forever. But now Utena has prevented that.

Wakaba's only option is to Revolutionise the World.

Wakaba enters her room to find Saionji, dressed in his Student Council uniform, packing to leave, gleeful over the trivial price Mikage asked in return for his help. All it cost was a little wooden trinket. Wakaba, eyes flat and dead, asks Saionji if he is leaving.

Startled by Wakaba's entry, Saionji drops his bag. He apologises to Wakaba for having been such a bother — and lets her know he is returning to his own world now.

Wakaba asks about the hair clip.

Saionji dismisses the clip, explaining that he was not able to give it to Wakaba. He assures her

that he plans to buy her something expensive instead. He would like to mail the gift to her.

She says, "Never mind. I have something even nicer now." She lifts her hand to show off the Black Rose Crest. Saionji knows Mikage used him.

Wakaba charges Saionji and pulls forth Saionji's Heart Sword from his breast.

Utena comments on the strange sky, and opens her locker. Once again, a duelling challenge hangs inside.

Small hair clips sit on the desktops in the Duelling Arena. Wakaba stands, waiting. Anthy begs Utена to take the sword from her but Utena cannot fight Wakaba. She cannot use a sword against a friend.

Wakaba charges with Saionji's katana. Anthy begs for Utena to take the sword. Wakaba screams, "I'm going to kill the girl who took my Saionji away from me!"

Wakaba, in shadow, skewers Utena through the heart.

The bells toll.

The duel does not end. Utena begs to know what happened.

Wakaba was shining so brightly! Anthy, again, begs Utena to pull the Sword of Dios. Wakaba lashes out with the katana.

Utena falls, and Wakaba grabs her hair. Wakaba holds the sword up to Utena's throat, and hisses, "You and that girl and the Student Council, too! You all look down on me! Without a care in the world, you use the special gifts you were born with and without a second thought... YOU TRAMPLE THE REST OF US!"

Wakaba pulls her hand back for a killing blow.

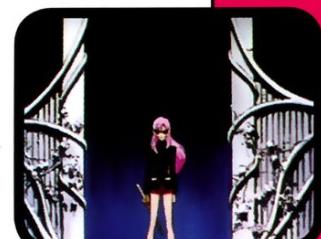
Utena grabs Wakaba's hand. They grapple among the desks.

There is much Utena does not understand but she is going to save Wakaba. They tussle over Saionji's heart sword. Utena wins the struggle, and defeats Wakaba with her own weapon.

The bells toll again.

Saionji strolls through the front doors of the school and beams with satisfaction.

Wakaba walks alone home. She closes the door and leans on it. She is alone.





EPISODE 21: VERMIN

Nanami's minions follow her orders without question. Yet one of the three, Keiko, harbours a secret — she tolerates Nanami only to get closer to Touga. When Keiko finally achieves her goal, Nanami tears Keiko's life apart. Mikage offers Keiko only one option: to revolutionise the world.

Nanami walks to school, flanked by her three loyal minions.

The Past: After the Middle School Entrance Ceremony, the three invite Nanami to join their little group. Later, when beautiful Touga strolls up, the three realise Nanami is Touga's little sister.

In Aiko, Keiko, and Yuko's dormitory room, empty snack boxes litter the floor. The girls eat Pocky and agree that meeting Miss Nanami changed their lives. They swear to band their forces and try their best together. "We three are The Chosen, after all!" Yuko says.

Nanami decides that a grand party will cheer Touga up. He does not comment. Undeterred by the lack of reaction, Nanami instructs her minions to throw the grandest party conceivable. Touga must be made to feel better.

Jury is nonplussed when Keiko gives her invitation, given the current situation with the Council. Keiko invites Miki, Wakaba, and

Suzuki, Yamada and Tanaka. She even invites Chu-Chu. Nanami is determined to help Touga with her party and so she invites everyone she can think of.

Later, Keiko tries on party dresses and dreams about Touga. Touga has been ill for weeks. Touga is oblivious to Keiko but she is quite aware of him. Keiko entreats Yuko and Aiko to do their best for Nanami and Touga. The party has Keiko pumped. She even wears her new party dress.

Nanami struts down the stairs, surveying the preparations. Everything is set. She beckons Keiko and asks a favour. Could Keiko return to school and finish some Student Council paperwork for her? Keiko muffles protest. Nanami insists that the party is ready, Keiko unneeded, so Keiko should have no problem doing the paperwork. Nanami imperiously orders Keiko to get going. Keiko starts to give Nanami a biting retort, and decides

Instead, she shuffles off to do Nanami's bidding.

Keiko walks through the deserted halls of the school, and dreams of Touga. She watched Touga for so long from afar. "The only girl who can ever get near the prince is the princess from his fairy-tale world," she thinks.

Keiko sits alone in a dark basement library among the card catalogue, working slavishly on Nanami's paperwork. Later, Keiko stands in the Kiryuu Mansion garden outside a window and watches Touga hit on Utene. Keiko returns home, alone. She pulls down her pigtails, and ponders Touga. They live in different worlds. A girl like her does not have a chance. What is she thinking?

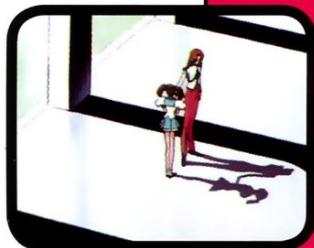
The next day in the Rose Garden, Utene gossips to Anthy and Miki about the party. Touga looked much better than they were expecting but he still avoids the campus. If the president keeps this up, the Student Council will fall.

Nanami overhears the discussion and uses Utene's

apparent concern about Touga as an excuse to accuse Utene of spying on the boy, something Nanami says is a disgusting habit.

Utene protests. No one snuck around. Aiko, Keiko and Yuko accost Utene in turn. Utene only went to the party because she had an invitation. Nanami turns this back on Utene, claiming that Utene was merely taking advantage of the opportunity, a mere parasite. After insulting Utene, Nanami and her minions storm off. In the Planetarium, Utene and Anthy look up at the Pleiades projected on the ceiling of the dome. Utene recites facts about the Pleiades, and admits she learned them from Akio. He has been teaching her a lot lately. Akio, on cue, strolls into the Planetarium. The two friends together are a lovely sight, like the twins of Gemini. Indeed, Utene and Anthy together is a sight more beautiful than the stars.

Utene leaves for the night down the elevator. Akio beseeches Anthy to remain close friends with Utene, as close as Castor and Pollux. Anthy agrees to the request.





Behind the Kiryuu Mansion, Keiko walks through the rain carrying an orange umbrella. She stops when she spots Touga standing in the downpour, drenched with rain. She dithers briefly before taking a chance. She calls out to Touga, offering him the use of her umbrella, expressing concern for Touga's health. The two walk together.

Nanami stops short when she sees Keiko and Touga. She wails in anger and betrayal.

Mamiya picks the black rose.

Furious at Keiko for her betrayal, Nanami dismisses Keiko from all clubs, from her dorm council, from all cultural associations, and all other assorted groups. When Keiko pleads to know why, Nanami tells Keiko not to try to play dumb, as both of them are aware of the reason Nanami is taking action against her former minion, the attempt to replace Nanami in her brother's affections.

Keiko pleads with Aiko and Yuko to speak to Nanami because they are the only ones Keiko can trust. Aiko and Yuko ignore Keiko, who is now an un-person to them, and leave.

Keiko sits utterly alone.

Keiko goes down Mikage's elevator.

Keiko once sincerely admired Nanami. She felt that way as she served Nanami. She also stayed by Nanami's side so that she could get a little closer to Touga. If not for that the beautiful Touga, then who would put up with Nanami's ways?

Keiko is a single girl. She can love whomever she wants. Why should Touga's sister get to monopolise his love and why should Keiko, who has served Nanami faithfully, be denied Touga's affections? Nanami is incapable of understanding Keiko's feelings in this matter, and unwilling to make even the slightest effort to do so.

Keiko must revolutionise the world.

Keiko walks into Touga's private rooms carrying her orange umbrella. She hands it to Touga, her love. Keiko slides a hand bearing the Black Rose Crest down his shirt and then wrenches the sword from his breast. She strokes the sword and leaves him lying limp.

Utena finds a challenge waiting in her locker.

The desks in the Duelling Arena hold orange umbrellas.

"With Touga's sword, I shall defeat you!" Keiko says. "For my future with Touga, I will fight."

Anthy stands impassive under an umbrella.

Utena pulls the Sword of Dios. The two clash as Utena struggles to understand this duel. Keiko complains bitterly that Nanami does not even consider her human, despite Keiko's loyal service.

"Utena, who does not understand why Keiko is challenging her, asks Keiko

why she has Touga's sword but Keiko refuses to answer, instead preferring to attack.

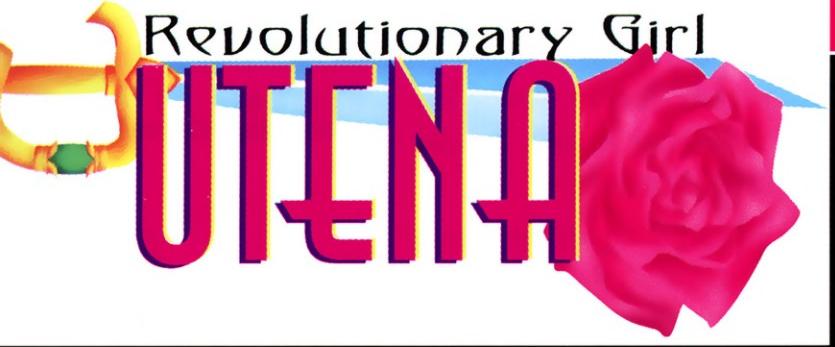
Keiko, raving about Touga and denouncing Nanami, starts a final pass, sending umbrellas flying. Utena struggles against Touga's sword. "The Power of Dios possesses Utena. She finishes the fight. Utena stands, victorious and confused. Utena does not even know Keiko's name. Utena thought her attacker was one of Nanami's friends. It is scary how the roots of hatred can spread under the surface where you cannot see them.

The next day, Keiko is happy to be near Nanami. Her infatuation with Touga is forgotten and her brief falling out with Nanami is forgotten as well. Once again she is a loyal minion of Nanami, perhaps forever.

Utena is baffled by Keiko's reborn loyalty to Nanami.

"That's easy," Anthy says. "If it's for someone you love how you feel about others doesn't matter. You keep lying to yourself for as long as it takes."





EPISODE: 22



EPISODE 22: The Nemuro Memorial Building

Professor Nemuro was a Duellist in a previous incarnation of the Duelling Game. End of the World gave him both a crest and a letter with instructions. Nemuro chose to destroy the game rather than play it. Nemuro, now Mikage, lives in a world of regrets and hallucinations.

Dios sleeps on his sphere in the Castle Where Eternity Dwells. Akio stands in the light. The hourglass empties. Akio sniffs a Black Rose. "And so we come to the last of the Black Roses... But the question is, whether he himself will fight."

Mikage wears a Duellist Rose Crest.

Utena searches the campus for Chu-Chu. Mikage stands on the steps of the Nemuro Building, holding him by the tail. As Utena reclaims the mouse, Souji Mikage introduces himself. Utena recognises the genius that runs the Mikage Seminar.

Utena looks in the door to the Nemuro Building Interview Hall. Mikage invites Utena to his seminar. Utena laughs — the last test she took was for failing another test. Mikage explains that the seminar is not about academic prowess. Instead Mikage is looking

for exceptional people with individualistic personalities.

Utena asks about Nemuro Memorial Hall. She heard 100 boys died there — is it true? Mikage explains the basic facts: There once was a man named Professor Nemuro. There was a fire. He and all his students burned to death. They rebuilt Nemuro Memorial Hall soon after. All of this was very long ago.

Later, Utena calls on Akio at the Planetarium, but strangely no one is home. Mikage sits in his office and gazes at the picture of Mamiya. "It's you."

Akio drops an End of the World letter on Mikage's desk.

A drop of water falls on a black rose.

Mikage reads the letter from End of the World. He observes that he and End of the World have a deal, and that he has no reason to now obey End of the World's



order. End of the World agrees that this indeed has been the case ever since the fire that killed all those students and supposedly, Mikage, then known as Nemuro, as well.

The distant past. No one knows what the section researches. The rumour is something about the power to revolutionise the world. Can Professor Nemuro give the students a hint? Nemuro only knows are the same rumours.

The students wear signet rings.

Nemuro was a genius. He was a living computer — a dry man passing dry days. The details of his research bored him. The project was stuck.

One day the Board sends Tokiko Chiba, a beautiful woman, to talk to Nemuro. The pair head to Tokiko's quarters for a discussion.

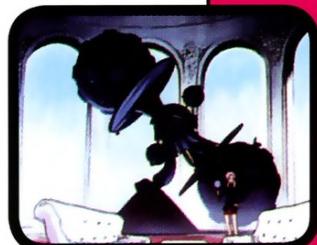
The job assigned to Nemuro is proceeding on schedule, although he cannot guarantee he will complete it. Tokiko knows Nemuro is taking orders from someone else and questions Nemuro's motivation for taking the job. Nemuro claims business reasons. The research will

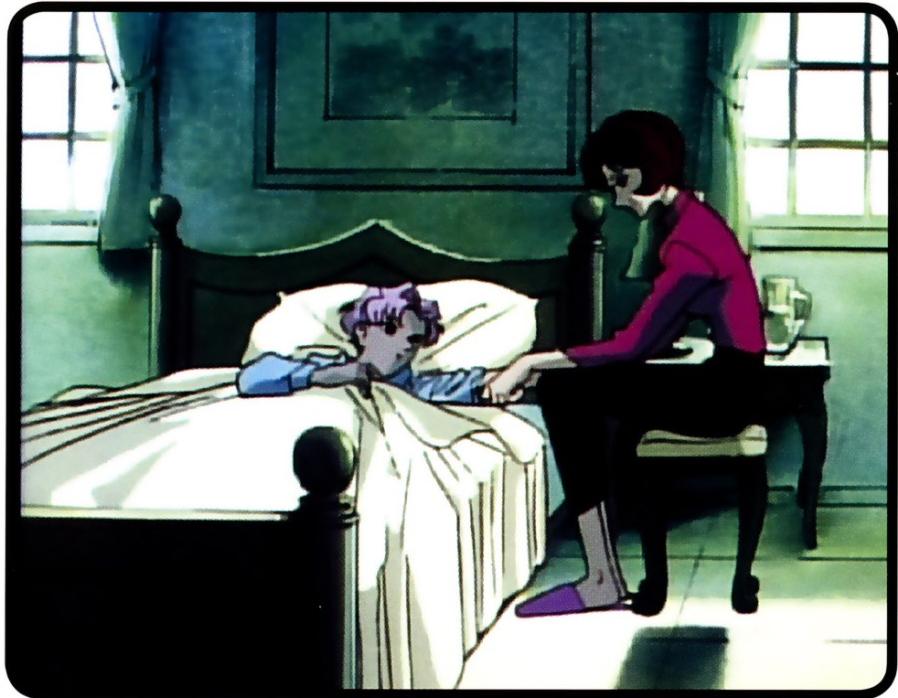
revolutionise the world. "It sounds like we're building a perpetual motion machine," Nemuro says.

The discussion is interrupted when Tokiko's brother Mamiya knocks something over. When Tokiko orders Mamiya to go to bed, her brother refuses, enraging Tokiko. Tokiko once again orders Mamiya to go to bed and this time he does but only after his sister mediates him. He expresses pleasure at the treatment, a comment that Tokiko calls silly.

Tokiko's involvement in the project is motivated by her concern for her ailing brother's health. His situation appears hopeless unless the project succeeds. What she does not know is that the project has nothing to do with medicine and its success or failure will not change Mamiya's fate in any way.

After her brother goes to bed, Tokiko breaks down. Nemuro feels like it is the first time he has seen someone cry. Tokiko asks if Nemuro has someone important to him. She suggests that perhaps it is not possible for a genius to love another person.





After his discussion with Tokiko, Nemuro works like a man possessed by love.

Mamiya sits in the rose garden. Nemuro approaches him, concerned. Nemuro enquires after Mamiya's health and is assured that Mamiya feels a bit better today. The Board called Tokiko away. Mamiya offers Nemuro the sugar preserved roses Tokiko made. Tokiko also made the dried black ones because she does not like to see flowers die and this way, even the short-lived flowers can last a bit longer. Mamiya wonders if the flowers like being made to last. Nothing in this world is eternal but a heart that longs for eternity is beautiful.

Nemuro interprets this as proof that Mamiya does not expect Nemuro and Tokiko's work to save him and questions Mamiya about this. In reply, Mamiya picks a black rose and appreciates Nemuro's work.

End of the World interrupts Nemuro at work in his office, handing Nemuro a letter and dismissing Nemuro's ability to complete the work he is engaged in. Nemuro protests that outsiders are

not allowed in the facilities, to which End of the World replies by revealing that the only outsider present is Nemuro himself. All the others have contracts with End of the World and all are part of the great work to revolutionise the world.

Nemuro reads the letter from End of the World but he finds the course of action it suggests unthinkable.

End of the World holds up a Rose Crest. Nemuro recognises it as the ring everyone in the facility wears, and is informed that the ring symbolises a contract between the wearer and End of the World. There are 100 boys who work with Nemuro and all 100 have contracts with End of the World.

Nemuro calls the entire enterprise insane but when he questions the ability attaining immortality to make "her" happy, he inadvertently reveals his secret motivation to End of the World.

End of the World notes the use of the word "her", then handing Nemuro a ring, tells him that if Nemuro desires

eternity then his only option is to revolutionise the world.

Nemuro slips out of his office. He follows a coffin down the long hall to an open door. Inside, Akio, End of the World, kisses Tokiko of the Oversight Board.

Nemuro turns away. He thinks about the ring in the mug while the building burns.

Nemuro and Mamiya stand outside. Tokiko runs and grabs Mamiya by the shoulders. "Is it true? You did this? You were behind this? Why? Why did you do this?"

"They had a contract," Nemuro says. Such sacrifices are always necessary. This is the first step towards the task he has. One day, the path to eternity will open from this school. "Mamiya did the right thing. I, too, now wish to grasp eternity with my own hands."

Mikage sits in his office with a picture of Mamiya on his desk. He wears his Rose Crest. He reads the letter from End of the World.

Tokiko stands and leaves red roses on the ground. She passes Mikage in the hallway.

But it breaks my heart to see you like this now.

Akio stands alone in the Planetarium. Tokiko joins him. They converse about how the school has changed in the years since they last met. The exception is Nemuro, who has not aged one bit in the time since the fire. Akio expresses the belief those who choose to remain at the school can never become adults and Tokiko replies that for plants to bear fruit, their flowers must die. Akio agrees.

Utena and Anthy argue about Anthy's role at the school and her submission to End of the World's plans. Utena feels that Anthy should consider other plans of action while Anthy is of the belief that her role as the Rose Bride constrains and defines the limits of her life.

Mamiya picks the Black Rose.





EPISODE: 23



EPISODE 23: THE TERMS OF THE DUELLIST

Utena discovers the truth about Souji Mikage, the Black Rose Circle and the strange Duellists. Disgusted, she challenges Mikage to a Duel in the Arena. He has no choice but to face her, and face the truth of his past. Mikage finally becomes a Duellist.

One last black rose.

As the Nemuro Building burns, Nemuro reassures Tokiko that although her brother's sins are deep, the deaths of the 100 Duellists will not be wasted. Their sacrifice will be the foundation upon which will be built true eternity.

"...she's strong. Utena Tenjou, I mean," Mamiya tells Mikage. "I sense unknowable depths of strength within her."

One black rose left. If Mikage cannot defeat Utena, must he get her to join him?

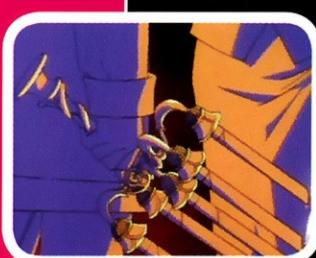
"The Student Council meets to discuss strategy. Nanami proposes that the Student Council get the Engaged on their side. Nanami admits that she does not like Utena but the threat is to the entire Council and justifies extreme measures. Jury is dubious about Nanami's idea. The Council members are supposed to be Duellists.

Anthy is not at home, at school, or at the Rose Garden.

Mikage enters the Rose Garden. Utena asks if he has seen Anthy but Mikage does not know any Anthy. Mikage asks if Utena considered his offer. When she asks Mikage why he wants Utena in his seminar Mikage claims that Utena has a mysterious charm. He is attracted to her. He urges Utena to visit. If they became friends, Mikage could help her any time she needed help.

Mikage looks at Utena and remembers Tokiko. Does anyone close to Utena have problems?

Utena dreams of lying in the church's coffin. In the dream she pleads with Touga not to open the lid. The coffin is for her. Everyone has to die someday and now that Utena realises this she no longer has the will to live. Utena declares that there is no such thing as something eternal.



Utena wakes in her room, and sees Anthy, asleep, holding her hand. Anthy came back.

The next day, an exhausted Utena searches out Mikage.

In the hall outside Mikage's office in the Nemuro Building, black and white pictures of Duellists hang on the walls: the 100 boys, Mikage, Tokiko and Mamiya. Kanae. Kozue. Wakaba. Keiko. The purpose of these paintings is unclear to Utena.

Mikage, the former Nemuro, lies in bed while Mamiya offers him roses. Mikage appears to be on the verge of the victory he has sought for so long, eternity nearly in his grasp and yet he is oddly unwilling to engage the other Duellists. Eternity would mean Mamiya's brief life might be an instant that lasts Age upon Age. With the prize so close, Mikage's reluctance to end the game is peculiar indeed.

I, too, now wish to grasp eternity with my own hands...

"You finally came," Mikage says. "I thought you would eventually return to me." She smiles at Utena. "Tokiko... You don't have to regret abandoning me."

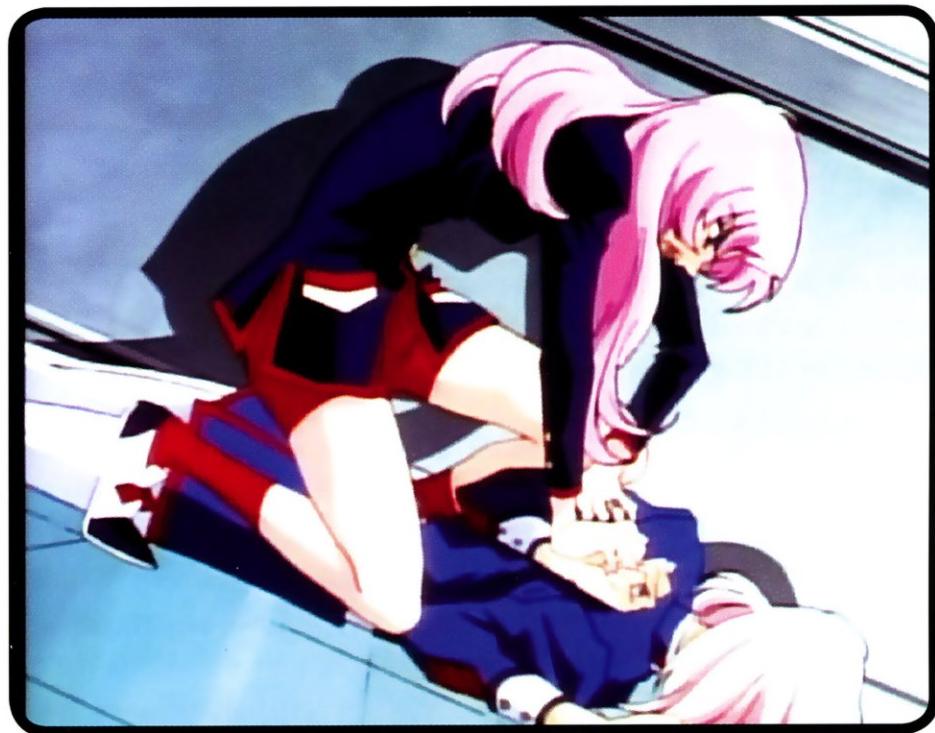
Utena realises the truth.

Manipulating them? Hardly. These are members of the Mikage Seminar. The girls had precious memories. They fought to preserve those memories.

The portrait of young Utena hangs on the wall.

Like him, Utena makes her memories eternal. The world requires it. The path she must take has been prepared.

Utena punches Mikage. He reels and lands on the ground. Utena crouches over him, twisting his arm behind his back. Utena yells, "Who exactly is the world?" Mikage's attempt to deal with the enraged Utena with mere words fails. Utena is trying to defend her precious memories, memories that have until now been her support.





Utena sees the Duellist Rose Crest on Mikage's hand. She grits her teeth and curls a fist. She punches the floor next to his head. Utena challenges Mikage to a formal duel at the Duelling Arena at sunset. By defeating Mikage Utena will prove that she is nothing like him.

Mikage goes down the elevator. He thinks of Mamiya, who prods him to speak. Mamiya wants to discuss the coming duel with Utena but Mikage just laughs, brushing off Mamiya's tears. Mamiya accuses Mikage of enjoying the situation and asks if Mikage intends to honour the challenge.

"In the end, the conspirators have not advanced one bit. Utena is much closer to the Power of Dios than either Mikage or Mamiya."

Mamiya hands Mikage the black rose.

Utena waits for sunset and the duel in the halls of Ootori Academy. She thinks about Mikage's words. Then, suddenly, Wakaba accosts Utena. Wakaba

accuses Utena of forgetting about her but then declares that no matter what happens, Wakaba will always be by Utena's side.

The desks in the Duelling Arena hold pictures of Tokiko with Mamiya. Mikage waits, wielding his own sword.

Utena pulls forth the Sword of Dios from Anthy. The bells toll.

Utena and Mikage clash between the desks. Although his shoulder still hurts from his altercation with Utena, Mikage does not intend to lose to her. In turn, Utena will not lose to a manipulator like him.

They fight.

"While they spar, Mikage taunts Utena, claiming that all of the people he manipulated into taking the black roses were acting out of free will. He insists that all that come to the arena are like him, seeking eternity. When Utena tells him to stop blaming others for his own actions, Mikage speculates that she too is driven by some crucial memory from

the past and accuses her of being exactly like Mikage.

"And now, in this place, I will defeat you, Tokiko!"

Mamiya informs Mikage that he can not win, that he will never defeat the woman who lives in Mikage's memories. The illusion that surrounds Mikage begins to crumble, as he raves, confusing Utена with Tokiko.

"Eternity is in my reach," Mikage says.

But Mamiya, who does not look like the Mamiya in the photos on the desk, questions Mikage. Was it in fact Mamiya who set the fire for which he has been blamed all these years or did another person's hand set the flame?

Utena charges Mikage.

In the Planetarium, a phone rings. Akio answers. "Ah, Mr. Nemuro. I was expecting your call. Yes. Your companion Mamiya who was produced by your lingering regret over Tokiko actually died a long time ago. You treasured that

illusion of memory so much that it stopped time for you. I made use of that."

Utena finishes the duel.

Akio continues. "The time you spent not growing up as you kept possibilities hidden in your heart proved useful to me. However, that's all over now. The path you must take is not prepared for you. Now graduate from this place."

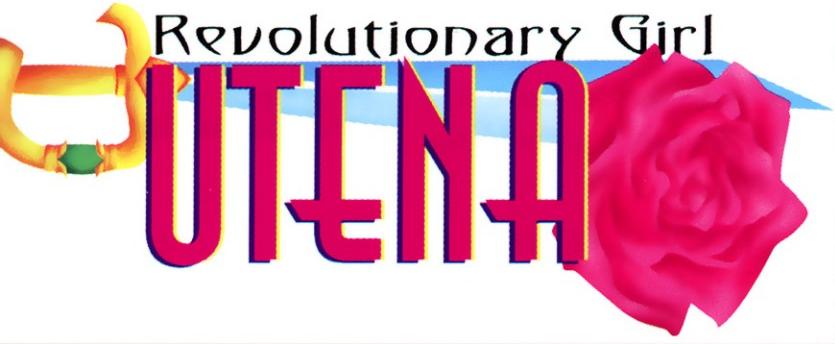
Mikage's Mamiya stands in the Planetarium.

The Nemuro building is a heap of burned ruins. Miki tells the tale of the fire while Utena searches for Anthy. No records remain. Miki cannot quite remember the name of the building.

Akio approaches Mikage's Mamiya from behind. "What's wrong? Do you feel sympathy for him? But he isn't here at this school anymore. He never really was in the first place. Just like you..."

Athy who was Mamiya turns to her brother.





EPISODE: 24



EPISODE 24: THE SECRET NANAMI DIARY

Mitsuru records everything about Nanami — and when he says everything, he means everything. Mitsuru knows all of Nanami's plots and schemes. He even keeps a few plots for himself. When Mitsuru ends up in the hospital, Nanami, Utena and Anthy learn all of Mitsuru's secrets.

Mitsuru walks Nanami through her daily schedule. She has her classes this morning, including music appreciation. He finished her report. Nanami has an English vocabulary test sixth period. Mitsuru provides a cheat sheet. He will fill Nanami in on her after school schedule at lunch. Nanami thanks Mitsuru.

After school, a runaway horse threatens Nanami. At the risk of his own life, Mitsuru dives in front of it, saving Nanami but he himself is injured.

Mitsuru awakens in a hospital bed.

Utena and Anthy speak with Nanami outside the dividing curtain. Mitsuru protected Nanami. The horse knocked him over and

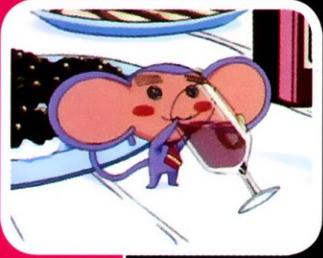
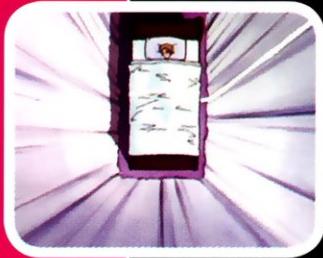
scratched him a bit. He was unconscious, so Nanami brought him here. Anthy spies Mitsuru's little book.

Mitsuru sits straight up in bed. He must stop them but he cannot because he's stark naked. Thanks to his modesty, Mitsuru is at the mercy of Utena, Anthy and Nanami.

The trio of girls read Mitsuru's diary.

... as long as Mitsuru can remember, he's always looked over Miss Nanami...

Mitsuru has kept a meticulous record of Nanami's machinations and double-dealing. Nanami ordered her minions to bully Anthy so that Nanami could appear to save her. Nanami was the one who sent Anthy a dress that would disintegrate if wet and



then arranged to have Anthy sprayed with champagne at a party. Nanami was the one who got her minions to swap one billion fold curry for Anthy's super hot curry. Nanami has been the instigator of many misfortunes while posing as an innocent, creating an illusion of being uninvolved. Nanami has carefully concealed her true face from her schoolmates and victims but Mitsuru's diary reveals all the nasty details.

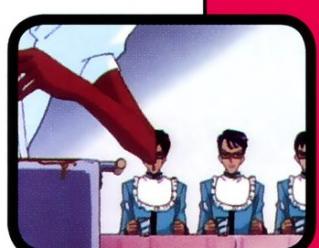
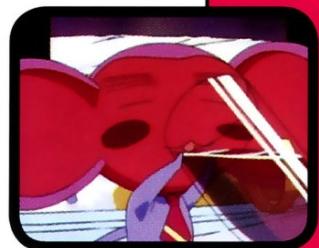
Nanami seems to have some reason for particular malice towards Anthy, who has been the target of many of Nanami's plots. Nanami never seems to miss a chance to make life difficult for Miss Himemaya. The misfortunes have not been one sided, though. As often as not, Nanami's little plots would backfire on her. The diary goes into detail on this point as well, revealing the

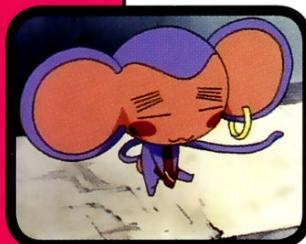
embarrassments and injuries that Nanami has suffered, unseen, over the years.

As Mitsuru writhes in shame in his sick bed, his diary promises to provide the answer to the question of why Nanami selected Anthy Himemaya to be her special victim. Although Nanami struggles to grab the book, she fails and the answer is read out for all to hear.

The diary begins to digress from the actions and motivations of Nanami into Mitsuru's thoughts, feelings and even secret plans. Mitsuru admires Touga and dreams of one day being someone's big brother, just as Touga is to Nanami.

Utena suggests that they stop reading, since this section of the diary is about Mitsuru's intimate thoughts. Nanami comments bitterly that the section already read concerned her private affairs





without that stopping anyone. Apparently Mitsuru has more weight with Utena and Anthy than Nanami does.

Anthy finds a page labelled "Strategy #1."

Strategy #1 is a fantasy where Nanami walks outside at night. Hearing footsteps, she runs, trips and falls into the path of an oncoming car that nearly runs her over.

In the fantasy, Nanami wakes in the hospital with amnesia. The shadow of Touga appears. The curtain whips back and there is Mitsuru, claiming to be Nanami's big brother. He stands, wind blowing through his hair, arms spread. She leaps out of bed and into his arms!

Mitsuru is stricken.

"Hold it!" Nanami yells.
"What's THAT all about?"

Strategy #2...

Mitsuru grabs the bed sheet and climbs out of bed to stop them. He pleads with them not to read any further.

It's too late for that. Time to reveal all of Mitsuru's evil conspiracies!

Mitsuru protests. They are not evil conspiracies. He will become a man worthy of Nanami!

Utena holds Nanami back, afraid that if she gets excited she'll turn into a cow again.

Strategy #2. If Nanami turns into a cow again, I plan to handle it like this:

Another of Mitsuru's fantasies follows.

Nanami grazes in a pasture. Utena orders Nanami to remove the cowbell. Anthy hands Utena the red sweater, causing Nanami's full

transformation into a cow. Nanami charges Utena.

Before Nanami can properly duel with Utena, Mitsuru stands between Utena and the charging Nanami, arms spread. Cownami stops!

"It's all right," Mitsuru says. "It's all right, Nanami." He reaches out to stroke her cow face. "Even if you're a cow, I'll always take care of you. I'll join you now." Mitsuru puts on a cowbell, and turns into a very small cow.

Mitsuru pleads with Anthy to stop reading the diary. Nanami holds him back, and tells him to accept it gracefully. The sheet Mitsuru wears comes untied and falls to the floor.

Nanami is so scandalised she jumps out the window. She

wakes to find Mitsuru writing in his diary. "Where am I?" she asks.

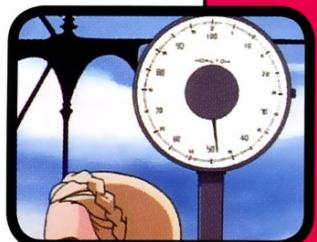
"Oh, you're finally awake. How do you feel?" Mitsuru asks.

Nanami lies in bed with a bandage on her head. She sits up and asks Mitsuru what he's writing. He complains about Nanami's schedule.

Nanami steals the diary from Mitsuru's hands. She snaps her fingers. The doors swing open, revealing Nanami's minions. Nanami orders them to grab Mitsuru.

Mitsuru runs while Nanami reads the diary. Strategy Number 24...

"Oh god, I'm finished!" Mitsuru yells. "If she reads that page, I'M FINISHED!!!"





UTENA TENJOU

Utena is a romanticised character. She is as a paragon of strength and nobility. She has a heart of gold and fierce unbending loyalty to her friends. She is the perfect tomboy, talented at sports, aloof in class, and popular among the other students. Utena is also naïve and gullible. She trusts those around her — often too much. She trusts her friends, her associates, and for a small sliver of time, she even trusts Mikage.

For the Black Rose, Utena is a conduit to get at Anthy, the Rose Bride, and not the actual target. When Utena fought the Student Council, their target was Utena and her ascension toward the final prize in the duels. The Student Council had a goal — to enter the Castle Where Eternity Sleeps and revolutionise the world. Those students “inducted into the Mikage Seminar” as Duellists have no interest in stopping Utena’s fast rise to the top. They do not even understand the rules of the game. They are “programmed” by Mikage to kill the Rose Bride at any cost. They are pawns in a confusing game of misdirection.

Utena finds the duels — and the Duellists who fight them — baffling. She fights Kanae, whom she only met once, in passing. Kanae’s interest is in physically hurting Anthy, not in defeating Utena.

The others are the same way. Kozue is obsessed with her brother, Miki. She wants only her brother and herself to exist in the world. Shiori wants to hurt Jury, who is nowhere involved in the duel. Mitsuru wants to be an adult, and believes fighting Utena will somehow magically transform him into a version of himself several years older. As for Keiko, Utena does not even know her name. Keiko’s target is Nanami, not Utena.

These duels, one after another, leave Utena feeling confused.

Only Wakaba's duel has any personal meaning for Utena. Utena did not even see it coming — she had no idea Wakaba harboured such resentment deep down inside. Wakaba's resentment is misplaced, and Utena refuses to harm her friend, despite the potential cost to Utena. Utena saves Wakaba from herself, just like Wakaba once saved Utena from descending down into complacency and normality. It takes all Utena's strength to defeat Wakaba without pulling the Sword of Dios from Anthy's chest.

The real duel is with Souji Mikage, as orchestrated by End of the World. After the Black Rose Duellists, Utena comes to face her ultimate foe. Mikage wrapped himself in a blanket of memories and hallucination. From his comfortable womb of lies, he taunts Utena, goading her into fighting. When Mikage does not stop with his slew of blather about memories, eternity, and revolutionising the world, Utena throws him to the ground. She is offended he would even insinuate that she is anything like him. She does not need to fight to protect her precious memories of her Prince — or maybe she does, but she does not need to use people who have no part of the game as pawns to get at Anthy or to keep going down that path — Mikage prattles and digs himself deeper and deeper into a hole, with no hope of return.

Utena would have hit him again if she had not seen the Rose Crest on his finger. Instead, she took the noble, civilised route. Utena is always the hero. She challenges Mikage to a Duel at Sunset.

Mikage never has a chance against Utena in the Duelling Arena. Mikage is just as much a Duellist as any member of the Student Council. No one dupes or uses Mikage. He takes up the sword of his own initiative, and faces Utena because he must. Mikage is, in the end, a Duellist, and all the Duellists must eventually make their way to the Duelling Platform and battle for possession of the Rose Bride. Mikage is another scheduled duel on Utena's path to the duel named Revolution.

Utena Tenjou has everything Mikage does not: clarity of purpose, understanding of her role in the Duels, and a drive to win instead of cheat at the game. She is caring, noble, and just. Illusions and memories of long dead relationships of time gone by do not hamper her or tie her to Ohtori Academy.

Utena's duel with Mikage is not as difficult as the duels she had with other members of the Student Council. He is lost in his dreams, and Utena refuses to lose to a manipulator like Mikage. She is nothing like him. She is better than he is. She deserves to win. So, she does.

The end of the Duel is the end of the Black Rose Circle. Utena stands triumphant over the villain of the series — although once he is gone, she no longer remembers him. The school returns to its humdrum existence, the balance once again set, and Utena is Prince Valiant of Ohtori Academy and Duellist Champion.





Anthy Himemoya / Mamiya Chiba

Anthy Himemoya is the Rose Bride, the prize, mediator, and source of the Duelling Game. For every duel, the currently “engaged” takes her to the duelling platform where she oversees the duel and enforces the rules of the bout. She sheathes the mystical Sword of Dios in her soul — a sword with great power for those who know its secrets. She gives up this weapon to her engaged and to no others. The Rose Bride hides many secrets.

The winner of the duel is “engaged” to the Rose Bride. He or she becomes the Prince and Anthy, the Princess. The Prince can use the Rose Bride for any purpose. Anthy can become the ultimate friend or lover, the perfect companion, and the balm for the most damaged soul. If the engaged loses the duel, he or she loses the Rose Bride and any privileges of being “engaged.”. Losing the Rose Bride can drive some to acts of madness.

Everyone desires the Rose Bride, but the Black Rose Duellists only desire her to murder her. They want nothing out of the Duelling Game except to destroy it, and its prize, the Rose Bride herself.

Anthy is both a pawn and an instigator of the Duelling Game on the second round. On the first round, the Student Council wanted to possess her to get at the power to revolutionise the world, motivated to fight by something within them. The second round is different. Anthy’s personal intervention drives two of the combatants — Kanae and Wakaba — to the Duelling Arena.

The first, Kanae, hates Anthy’s dead eyes and emotionless demeanour. Kanae is a hollow shell wanting fulfilment by other people. Anthy denies her even the slightest bit of satisfaction. Kanae heads to the Duelling Arena full of anger and hatred — this is her sword.

The second, Wakaba, wants Saionji so badly she will do anything and everything to have him. For a small moment, Wakaba had his attention and his love but he gave it away to Anthy or so Wakaba believed. This loss drove Wakaba onto the Duelling Arena with Saionji's Heart Sword — another pawn in the Game of Duels.

Anty lives three lives in the second game:

The first is the sweet, shy girl whose main interest is tending the Rose Garden. She keeps to herself, has few interests outside of Chu-Chu, and avoids social situations. She cannot remember names and becomes nervous in public. Anthy indulges Miki's interest in her and practices piano with him when she can. She smiles softly and sits loyally at Utena's side.

The second is Akio Ohtori's sister, the empty-souled pawn in a game of Duels. She sees Akio alone once a week. She follows his orders with a flat, "Yes, Big Brother." She is his creature, and she does his bidding.

The third, and most sinister, is as Mikage's Mamiya. Mikage's scheme is to destroy Anthy the Rose Bride and replace her with Mamiya the Rose Bride. Mamiya tends to the Black Roses, chooses the Duellists, and instructs Mikage on the methodology of the duels. Mamiya pushes Mikage gently, but constantly, to continue the game all the way down to the last. Mamiya forces Mikage to exhaust all his possible Duellists so that he has no choice but to fight himself. The scheme is underhanded, dirty, and no doubt co-ordinated entirely by Akio (End of the World).

End of the World was still playing the game from the shadows. He had not dispensed with the Student Council at all. On the contrary, they were the vectors for the second round of Duellists. Without the Student Council, the Black Rose Duellists had no reason to fall into Mikage's trap, and had no reason to duel. Anthy, as Mamiya, provided the Black Roses, the Black Rose Crests, and the means to draw the Heart Swords. From the shadows, Akio and Anthy together manipulate everyone.

It is unclear if *Anthy* even knows she is Mamiya until the end. Anthy complains of being tired almost all the time throughout the entire Black Rose Saga. When Anthy should be in bed, she is busy being Mamiya. Much like a victim of multiple-personality disorder, two people live in the same body and use their shared body continually, leaving them both without rest.

Utena never for a single moment suspects the plots raging around her. Neither does Miki. Utena sees a sweet girl with a devoted brother, and Miki sees the object of his devotions and his true love. The only hint either receives of the game is Chu-Chu, who fears Akio, refuses to go to the tower, and spends long amounts of time searching for his missing Anthy.

Anthy plays classical piano marvellously, fails at math, and cooks curry so terrible it explodes. She enjoys quiet conversation, and cleans fastidiously. Her nature is non-confrontational. She does not fight when accosted or opposed.





AKIO OHTORI / END OF THE WORLD

Akio Ohtori is Anthy Himemaya's elder brother, whom she sees once a week, every week. Akio is also a college student, a graduate of Ohtori Academy, although he never seems to attend classes, and never mentions what college he attends. He is engaged to Kanae Ohtori, the Chairman's daughter. Acting Chairman, Akio lives in luxury in the Chairman's mansion at the very apex of the tallest tower of Ohtori Academy.

To Utena, Akio first appears to be Anthy's charming and handsome brother who offers a little solace and break at the end of the week from Ohtori Academy. He invites Utena to join his sister on her weekly visits. Akio lives in a peaceful world outside the duels.

As time wears on, Akio's interest in Utena changes from the Big Brother of her friend and roommate to confident and trusted friend. Utena begins to visit Akio alone, without Anthy. She sits and talks with him for hours. He teaches her things — about people, about the stars, about the Academy. Utena's thoughts begin to turn less to the duels, and subsequently to her Prince, and more toward Akio. Utena's Prince is always first in her thoughts, but Akio draws a close second. Akio has a beautiful fiancé, but it harms no one if Utena spends a few more hours with him, does it? Akio gives Utena solid advice and insights into the turmoil of her life. He is wise and can offer her understandable answers to complicated questions.

Akio hides a different face from Utena Tenjou — the face that orders his sister to come to him every week, the face that delivers Rose Crest Rings and End of the World letters. Many years ago, on another turn of the Duelling Game, Akio Ohtori brought together 100 boys to duel with one another in a quest to "attain eternity." He forced the "project's" head "researcher" "Professor" Nemuro to play by subtle

changes in the game. First, he sent Nemuro people to care about — Tokiko Chiba and her dying baby brother, Mamiya. Then, he lured Nemuro into the game with the promise of a cure for Mamiya Chiba or at least a way to prolong the boy's life indefinitely.

Akio offered Nemuro a contract and a ring, the same contract he offered to every other Duellist. Nemuro, at first, refused. Akio merely left the ring on Nemuro's desk and allowed the student to think about the offer. When Nemuro was emotionally weak, Akio broke him by allowing Nemuro to find him with Tokiko.

Nemuro chose not to play the game. He murdered the other Duellists instead of trying to win Tokiko as his Princess. This may or may not have been the final ending for the game as seen by End of the World, but the game ended all the same. Nemuro lingered at Ohtori Academy, a ghost drifting around campus, a perpetual high school student who attained a strange version of eternity in a never-aging state, believing he personally opened the way to the Castle Where Eternity Dwells.

Akio would have let Nemuro sit and rot for eternity, except Utena came along and fascinated him. Utena rose through the ranks of the duelling game without his prompting. She needs no Letters from the End of the World to duel and follows her own direction. Like Touga before him, Akio finds himself intrigued with Utena. As the Student Council sits defeated, Akio pushes the duels in a new direction to test Utena.

Akio dredged Nemuro — now Mikage — up from his hiding place and instructed his "Mamiya" to get the game rolling in a new direction. Mikage, now insane, believed *he* was in control, and that he could win the game by replacing the Rose Bride with his own facsimile.

What did Akio's scheme accomplish? If there are a set number of duels to the duel named *Revolution*, Utena moved much closer to the end of the game. Akio watched Utena in action, several times, without seriously putting the Rose Bride in any kind of jeopardy. Throughout all of Mikage's game, the Rose Bride never changes hands. Akio got to clean up some loose ends that plagued the Ohtori Academy for a while. No more Black Rose Circle and no more games "in secret."

What Akio does to Mikage is nothing compared to what he does to his "beloved" fiancée, Kanae. She is nothing to him but a pawn sacrificed on the duelling game. She does not even get a sword of another to help her. Instead, Akio uses Anthy to push Kanae into hatred, and then unleashes her on Utena simply to see how Utena, and Mikage, react. Once Kanae loses the duel, her usefulness to Akio ends.

The Akio presented to Utena and the unaging Akio that hands out Rose Crest Rings are two different faces of the same being. He even abuses Utena through Anthy, bidding Anthy to be as close a friend to Utena as "Castor and Pollux," no doubt for some future scheme in the Duelling Game.





SOUJI MIKAGE / PROFESSOR NEMURO

"Professor" Nemuro was once a brilliant student. He impressed his peers and his professors with his great mind and his intellectual grasp of any subject he attempted, a tireless researcher destined for great things. His promise caught the eye of End of the World, who introduced Nemuro to the Duelling Game to the detriment and death of 100 other Duellists.

Nemuro's project stalled. This did not concern him. Then the Oversight Board (End of the World) sent an Inspector; a beautiful woman named Tokiko Chiba. She moved into rooms on the Ootori Academy campus. Nemuro and Tokiko began working closely together, and he fell passionately in love with her. Nemuro discovered the key to Tokiko's love was her terminally ill little brother, Mamiya Chiba. His driving desire to save the boy, and thus win his Princess, drove him to work tirelessly on the project to "attain eternity."

Nemuro's force of will and single-minded devotion to the project drew the gaze of End of the World, who offered him a Rose Crest and a Contract. The other boys who worked in the building likewise took End of the World's ring and orders. If Nemuro accepted End of the World's ring, the way to attain the power of eternity and miracles lay before him.

Nemuro waffled, but took the ring when his dream of a perfect family crumbled horribly when he caught End of the World romantically involved with Tokiko Chiba. Tokiko loved another man, the very man who was driving him to the end of the world. Nemuro snapped.

Nemuro accepted the ring. He did not want to take the power of eternity for himself. He wanted it for Mamiya Chiba. If Nemuro attained eternity, he could give it to Mamiya, and Nemuro, Tokiko

and Mamiya would live happily together in a forever that Nemuro measured in physical years, not in a conceptual time.

Nemuro cheated. He set fire to the building, killing the other Duellists. He then edited his memories to believe Mamiya burned the building to keep Nemuro from attaining eternity, trapping Nemuro at Ohtori Academy. Consumed as he was with gaining the power of eternity, Nemuro chose to eliminate all of the opposition. He would use the souls of the dead boys to re-climb the ladder and follow the path to revolutionise the world.

The Academy rebuilt the building into Nemuro Memorial Hall and Nemuro faded slowly into obscurity. Never actually leaving the campus, Nemuro changed identities every few years to become a different High School "genius". Still obsessed with attaining eternity, he built the Circle of the Black Rose and became Souji Mikage, the Shadow. He introduced the "Mikage Seminar" to search for students who he could use in his plan to hijacking the game from End of the World.

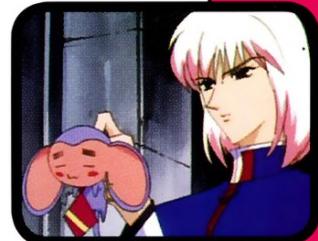
Mikage clung to his memories of Tokiko and Mamiya to the point where it stopped time for him. He had won his prize, but not in the way he expected. Mikage lived for year upon year, decade upon decade, never ceasing, never changing, half-mad.

Mikage stewed in his memories, recreating a past where he nearly attained glory. He built a new Mamiya, which End of the World shamelessly uses and replaces with Anthy. Mikage populated the Nemuro Memorial Hall with memories of the 100 dead students. He poached the needs and wills of others like a vampire. Only one thing stands in his way: Utena Tenjou. Defeat Utena, and he will win the final prize.

Mikage obsesses over "hacking" the progression of duels to the final duel. His solution is to kill the current Rose Bride to replace her with a Rose Bride of his own making. Engaged to his substitute Rose Bride, the path to the Castle Where Eternity Dwells will open, and he will gain the power of miracles. Then Tokiko, Mamiya and he will live in bliss for the rest of their lives — although Tokiko is now old, married, and has children of her own.

The incarnation of the duelling game he creates is no different from the one before or the one to come. Mikage does not realise it, but he is as much a tool of End of the World as the Student Council.

Once Mikage's part in the Duelling game ends, with Mikage's eventual loss to Utena Tenjou, End of the World "graduates" Mikage from Ohtori Academy. He disappears from the Academy. All traces of Nemuro disappear. Not only does the building return to a heap of charred ruin, but Mikage himself disappears from any record of the school, and the memories of those who encountered him. The "precious" memories he fought so hard to retain for all time vanish with a wave of End of the World's hand. Those who leave the Academy permanently lose all connection with it, and the Academy moves on without them.





NANAMI KIRYUU

Nanami is powerful, beloved, beautiful, and a legend in her own mind. She lives in the lap of luxury at Kiryuu Mansion, surrounded by adoring fans and dressed in the best fashions. As far as she is concerned, she surpasses all her peers, who all love wonderful, noble, intelligent Nanami. With her tireless minions (and Mitsuru), she runs the school with her iron fist wrapped in velvet, submitting it to her ruthless dictatorship and fine fashion sense.

After Touga loses his duel to Utena Tenjou (*Episode 12: For Friendship, Perhaps*), he locked himself in his room and refused to come out. The entire burden of the Kiryuu family fell upon Nanami's shoulders. She felt she had to carry it, alone, through the cold, uncaring halls of Ohtori Academy. Nanami saw no alternative but to take over her brother's presiding over the Student Council. It is a heavy burden, but one she is willing to bear for her true Prince. Although Nanami plans to take the Student Council down a Bold New Path, Miki and Jury largely ignore Nanami and go about their normal duties.

Later, Nanami turns into a cow. In her view, this is not entirely her fault. Anthy sent her the fashionable Cow-stian Designer Cow Bell during a very posh and exclusive party at the Kiryuu Mansion. Jury certainly did not have to show to the party wearing that very loud and gaudy (and no doubt expensive and one-of-a-kind) piece. By doing so she left Nanami no choice but to wear the cowbell as a matter of fashion honour.

The cowbell incident was funny but harmless until it started turning Nanami into a cow. Nanami refused to remove the collar because while it made her slow, placid and keen on grass, it was still a very posh cowbell. It made her the centre of attention until that terrible tomboy Utena Tenjou came along and removed it. Utena and Anthy claimed it was all a mix-up, but Nanami knows better. It was another plan to embarrass Nanami in front of her friends.

Next, Nanami's loyal minion Keiko hit on her brother Touga, who is now a broken recluse thanks to Utena. Keiko took advantage of him at his weakest moment. Who is she to think for a moment that Touga is worthy of her? So what if Nanami uses Keiko to perform menial tasks? How else would a girl like Keiko climb the social ranks of Ootori Academy? Keiko's efforts for Nanami might gain her invitations to exclusive parties, let her join all the right clubs, and give her access to the right friends, but it does not earn her the right to go near Touga.

Finally, her once boyfriend and now loyal stooge, Mitsuru, betrayed her. All this time, Nanami thought he was just a useful child, taking notes and writing her schedules. She had no idea he was noting down all her plots and machinations!

Worse, how could she know he was plotting how to exploit her horrible downfall, planning to sweep in while she was weak? What sort of elementary schoolboy has plans to take advantage of amnesia?

Nanami falls without resistance to Mikage's plans. He offers her a position in the Mikage Seminar, and she takes it without hesitation. She would never think for a moment that a good-looking boy from the High School Section who took interest in her could be evil. After all, everyone loves Nanami, and Nanami is good.

Her interest in the Black Rose Circle is more curiosity than a desire to protect the school and the Student Council. Nanami prods Miki and Jury to find out what it felt like to have a sword wrenched and torn from their chests, leaving them limp and lying on the floor while their Hearts faced Utena Tenjou.

Nanami eventually finds out precisely what it felt like when she pushes Mitsuru too far. Mitsuru may be a kid in the elementary school, but he still has feelings — and those feelings are confused. He badly wants to please Nanami and be the grown up boyfriend she craves. Unfortunately, she only wants Touga, leaving Mitsuru confused and heartbroken. When she leaves him in the rain for Mikage, Mitsuru, miserable, is easy prey for Mikage's plot. Mitsuru pulls both swords from Nanami's chest, and, with her Heart in hand, goes off to face Utena Tenjou on the field of battle.





MITSURU TSUWABUKI

When he was a very small boy, Mitsuru watched Touga rescue his little sister Nanami from a rampaging bull. So enamoured of Touga was Mitsuru, he swore he would also grow to be the perfect big brother to Nanami — although Nanami is several years older. Mitsuru schemed and plotted to become Nanami's Prince. He dropped flowerpots on her head, he pushed her into the path of runaway horses, he scared her into the paths of oncoming traffic, all so that he could swoop in and rescue her at the last moment.

For a short while, Nanami "dated" Mitsuru in the fashion of an owner using a loyal slave. He carried her books, attended her classes, and fought off her suitors. After the great conflagration of Nanami, Mitsuru, Touga, and the raging kangaroo, Nanami "broke up" with Mitsuru. Mitsuru asked if he could be her "little brother." If he could not be her boyfriend, he could at least be semi-adopted into the Kiryuu family.

Nanami accepted him into the "family," but did not stop treating Mitsuru as her personal boy slave. The status quo of Mitsuru's life is to dote on Nanami's every need, pack her lunch, manage her schedule, carry her books, prepare her homework, and ensure Nanami has little to do other than show up at the proper times. Mitsuru wants Nanami's attention so badly he kow-tows to her every whim.

His friends worry about Mitsuru — his well being and his sanity. Now that Mitsuru spends all his time around Nanami, he is not doing well. His best friend Mari warns Mitsuru that Nanami will use him up and spit him out. Mari knows about women like Nanami and she refuses to sit idly by while her friend is used.

Mitsuru refuses to give in. He does not want Nanami merely to tolerate him. He wants Nanami to consider him an equal, someone

worthy of her attentions. He wants her to love him like she loves her Big Brother. He wants to be her Prince.

Unfortunately for Mitsuru, he is an elementary school kid, Nanami is a middle school girl, and never the twain shall meet. Mitsuru lives in a world of Romeo and Juliet, and Juliet is interested in someone else. Whenever he strives to be more than a servant to Nanami, she dismisses him.

Mitsuru is tired of being a kid. He wants to be grown up. He wants to do fun grown up stuff. The world locks its joy from him because he is just some little kid. He refuses to wait.

Mitsuru, frustrated, embarks on self-imposed study regime to learn about adulthood. He works through all media available to him. The answer must be in the books and films somewhere. What else are they good for?

The answer is not in books, or in dusty libraries, or endless playing movie clips of couples gazing at each other in adoration. The answer, as Mari points out, is in doing. Mitsuru needs experience to become "grown up." Mitsuru translates this into getting as much experience as possible in a very short amount of time — a doomed venture from the start. He tries to kiss Mari on the sly, but Mari slaps him.

Mitsuru begs Nanami to consider him a "grown up." Nanami quips that she likes him just the way he is. Mitsuru snaps and finds himself at the mercy of Mikage and the Circle of the Black Rose. Mikage convinces him that he needs to "Revolutionise the World" to become an adult.

Nanami is unwilling to give her heart to anyone — including Mitsuru. He forcefully pulls them both out of her chest with heaving pain and leaves her limp in a chair in the movie screening room, illuminated by rotating clips of kisses.

After Mitsuru pulls the twin swords from Nanami's chest, eyes flat and dead, he stands across from Utena on the duelling platform. Mitsuru does not duel for the Power of Dios, the Rose Bride, or even the Power of Miracles. He wants only to defeat someone — anyone — so he can prove he is equal to the "adults" around him. He is convinced that, to become an adult, he has to defeat one and take his or her place. Utena believes he's gone completely crazy.

Utena's swift victory is a mercy. Mitsuru never remembers the duel.

Mitsuru never stops plotting to get Nanami to love him. He is an astute student of Nanami's behaviour. He bore witness to all her plots and shenanigans. He watched her torture Anthy Himemaya for her own amusement. He even follows her to India on the ill-fated spice-gathering trip. Along with recording Nanami's misadventures, he carefully crafts strategies and schemes to get Nanami to love him. He writes these plots with their possible pro-Mitsuru outcomes into his diary. He names and numbers every one.





WAKABA SHINOHARA

Even the best people have a small, dark place in their hearts. Wakaba lives in Utena's long shadow. Wakaba is lost in that shadow, often forgotten, overlooked in the greater scheme of Utena's destiny. Wakaba has always maintained a cheerful exterior. Separate from the duels, a true innocent of the game, Wakaba stays loyal and true to Utena — until Wakaba has something to hide.

A long time ago, when they were children, Wakaba met her Prince, a boy named Tatsuya Kazami. He was not marvellous, wonderful, brilliant, or gallant, but he was Wakaba's Prince. The girls all called Wakaba Onion Head, so he was the Onion Prince, defending Wakaba from torments and cruelty. After he left, Wakaba cherished the memory of him defending her from the cruel taunts of the other girls.

When Tatsuya Kazami returns to Ootori Academy and offers Utena a love letter, Wakaba is lost beneath Utena's shadow once again. She loved Tatsuya, but her Prince loves Utena. Wakaba eventually loses more than her Prince — she loses her temper. He is not good enough for Utena and he is not good enough for Wakaba, either. He is definitely not good enough for Utena.

Wakaba calls Tatsuya names. She accuses him of being a playboy and toying with her feelings. She yells at him in frustration but she also wants him to come back to her, and be her Prince. She cannot suffer his looks at other girls, or his interest in Utena. She wants and needs a Prince of her own.

Unknown to Tatsuya and Utena, Wakaba has secretly found her new Prince in Saionji. Although Saionji tormented and humiliated Wakaba, she still fantasised about the beautiful and perfect boy. She knows if he truly knew her, he would be with her forever. Tatsuya's

confessions of love — a true love — validates Wakaba's secret. She rushes off to be with her unattainable dream Prince, whom she has hiding in her dormitory room.

Wakaba's secret makes her feel special. For a few minutes, Wakaba can sit with her Prince, drink coffee, talk and laugh. The beautiful boy whom everyone loves, who never saw her beyond the crowd, is sitting here, in her room, sharing a meal. These few stolen moments make Wakaba feel like that lost, nigh forgotten princess. For a few moments, Wakaba is perfect. Her life has purpose.

Akio explains it to Utena: some people, like Utena, are born with a special destiny. They shine like stars all the time. Most people are just one out of many, lost in the glow of the special people but given a chance, they too can outshine all the stars in the sky.

While Wakaba has her secret, she shines. She is better in school and better at sports. She is confident. She is successful. She is prettier than normal. She glows. For a brief moment, Wakaba is the brightest star at Ohtori Academy.

Unfortunately, Wakaba is a shooting star, and gravity must hold sway. She has to fall to earth. Her greatest fear and envy is of Anthy: the girl who can take Saionji's heart away. When Saionji tentatively asks after Anthy's welfare, Wakaba feels the pain of hurt and the pull of heartstrings. She feels paranoid. She knows Saionji will never be hers, because he is in love, no matter how misguided, with someone else. No amount of kindness or patience or money or gifts will ever buy his love. All she has is his presence for a small amount of time.

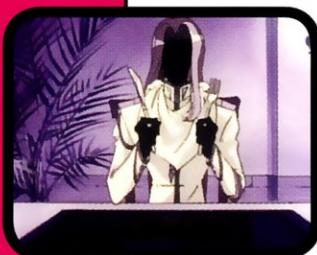
Mikage plays Wakaba and Saionji both like puppets on strings. He manipulates Wakaba into fighting for the Black Rose Circle, taking cruel and unrelenting advantage of her dreams and aspirations. By taunting her with the single, simple wooden hair clip, Wakaba pulls Saionji's katana from his chest and challenges Utena on the Duelling field. In the Duelling Arena, the sword gives Wakaba confidence, but it also hones her hatred towards Anthy. While it is a potent weapon in Wakaba's hands, the sword is also her undoing.

Wakaba's frustration and longings reach a feverish height on the Duelling platform as she holds Saionji's sword to Utena's throat and demands to be recognised. This fight is different — Wakaba means to kill Anthy. She has no interest in the duels or the power to bring world revolution. She wants Saionji's heart to be irrevocably hers.

Despite Anthy's pleas, Utena defeats Wakaba without the Sword of Dios or the Power of Dios. Instead, she uses Saionji's Heart Sword against Wakaba. Utena fights disarmed against her best friend because she must keep the Rose Bride. The fight is hard, but Utena has no will to duel Wakaba.

Utena does prevail, and Wakaba does not remember afterwards. Wakaba's secret is gone, and she deflates back to normal Wakaba — without her Onion Prince.





TOUGA KIRYUU

Touga Kiryuu is still the President of the Student Council. Beautiful, strong, confident, he now sits broken in a chair in his room. He lost the duel to Utena, and lost the heart to continue the game.



After Touga lost to Utena, he gave up the Rose Bride and his previous life and identity ended in his room at Kiryuu Mansion. Touga listens to the same record over and over, sometimes gazing out the window, sometimes sitting still. Rarely, he leaves his chair to go for long walks. Touga is less than a man than a dream, a hallucination of a Duelling Game past.

Nanami frets over her brother. If only she could get him to acknowledge, well, anything. She takes over the Student Council from him to preserve his seat in wild hopes that he will wake up and return to take his rightful place. Nanami tries various things to snap him out of his funk with various schemes, including large, lavish parties in the mansion ballroom. The latter party begins to bring him around slowly, but it was less the actual party and more the proximity of Utena Tenjou, object of Touga's desire. Utena comments the next day that Touga looked better than she expected, but not well enough to return to school.

Touga barely rouses when he becomes the object of another's desire: Keiko Sonoda. Keiko is always the loyal minion of Nanami's, following orders to the letter, and never questioning Nanami's requests. Keiko hangs around Nanami for a chance to spend time with Touga. She dreams of a few minutes with him. She believes Touga does not notice her, and with that she would be correct — Touga otherwise would never notice a girl like Keiko Sonoda. Yet, when she runs to him through the rain with her umbrella in hand, and offers to keep him dry, he accepts the umbrella gratefully and gives Keiko a few minutes of self-confidence.

Touga likely knows Keiko will pull his Heart Sword — he does not seem surprised. Despite his forewarning the sword does not come from his soul without pain and suffering. Touga, even weakened, does not give up his soul to a stranger easily.

The Heart Sword Keiko Sonoda pulls from his chest is powerful, and far more than a girl like Keiko can wield effectively in battle. Although its sheer force gives Utena pause in the Duelling Arena, Keiko lacks the first idea of how to wield something as strong as Touga's soul in actual combat, and this contributes to her loss in battle.

Kyoichi Saionji

Kyoichi Saionji cowers in the dormitory room of a Middle School girl, living off her good will, allowing her to deceive herself and scheming for a way to get back into Ohtori Academy — while dreaming of Anthy Himemaya.



Kyoichi Saionji, ex-Vice President of the Student Council, ex-Head of the Kendo Team, ex-Kendo Champion was expelled from Ohtori Academy for breaching the rules of the Duelling Game. Not only did he kidnap the Rose Bride and bring her to the Arena when no duel was scheduled, but he also injured Touga.

Once out on his own, Saionji found himself stumbling aimlessly through the town surrounding Ohtori Academy until good-hearted Wakaba rescued him. Although it is strictly against the rules to house strange people in the middle school dorms, Wakaba brought Saionji back and kept him in her room.

Saionji took advantage of Wakaba's good nature and moved in, all the time apologising for imposing on her and promising to move out as soon as he returned to school. Wakaba did not mind. Dreams of Saionji as her Prince clouded her vision. He would marry her and be with her forever. Saionji became possessive of Wakaba, demanding she return home to him at certain times, feed him, and keep him safe. Wakaba did all this and more, wanting nothing more than to please her Prince.

The relationship between Wakaba and Saionji was never healthy. Wakaba knew that he would return to his own life as soon as he could, and forget all about her. Saionji knew he would return to a position of prominence and put this small embarrassment behind him. Wakaba wanted it to last as long as possible while Saionji dreamed of returning to "his" Anthy. Saionji tried to be on his best behaviour, and Wakaba pretended that their "relationship" would never end. Saionji offered Wakaba a wooden barrette, and for a moment, she felt happy.

Souji Mikage tipped the balancing act of wants and needs. Mikage needed a Duellist to challenge Utena Tenjou for the Rose Bride, and Wakaba was his best opportunity. Mikage fed off Saionji's natural greed, took the wooden barrette, and gave it to Anthy. In exchange, Saionji received a free pass back into Ohtori Academy. Wakaba returned to take Saionji's Heart Sword, regardless if he wanted to give it or not.

Saionji's reputation is hopelessly ruined, but he ultimately fulfilled his quest to get back into the Academy. All it took was the betrayal of one true Princess and the game became his again.





JURY ARISUGAWA

Jury is stunningly beautiful. In her off-hours, when she is not working for the Council, practising in the Fencing Room, or attending to her schoolwork, Jury models for the world's most exclusive designers. Her physical gifts do not compensate for her lack of faith and her inability to find new love.



Jury is also the most self-assured member of the Student Council. While everyone else is rattled and has trouble focusing, Jury presides over her duties as the Council representative to the school administration without breaking stride. Saionji sits in exile, Touga refuses to leave his room, Miki moons after Anthy and Nanami has somehow proclaimed herself President but Jury still holds herself together with her business as usual attitude.

Jury is as informed as ever. Her legions of spies and loose tongues do not steer her wrong. She knows that Kozue pushed Miki's music teacher down the stairs and she knows Shiori Takatsuki is transferring back to Ohtori Academy after fleeing so many years ago.

When they were children, Jury and Shiori were best friends, as close as sisters. They spent every waking moment together. One day, Shiori betrayed Jury by choosing Jury's fencing partner, the Captain of the Fencing Team, over Jury, and left the school forever. Shiori left school with the boy, leaving Jury bitter and angry, no longer able to believe in miracles. Years passed, and they exchanged letters, but never saw each other — until one day Shiori reappeared at Ohtori Academy.

Jury has no illusions about Shiori — what she is like, who she is, what she does and what she would do to Jury given the chance. While Utena Tenjou speaks with a nice girl her own age, Jury sees a manipulative girl who is "cruelly innocent." Jury refuses to patch up their relationship, regardless of Shiori's weak overtures toward friendliness. Jury, after all these years, is smarter than that.

Jury regrets her endearing love for Shiori. Although she has tried many times to control herself, and while she holds no illusions about Shiori, Jury cannot stop loving her. She still keeps Shiori's picture in her pendant. Although she tried to throw it away, and tried to break the bond, the bond came back — with some small help of the Black Rose Circle. Thus, Jury gives her Heart Sword up to Shiori, although not without some small semblance of a fight. Now that Shiori knows her secret, Jury is weak to Shiori's predatory antics.

MIKI KAORU

Miki Kaoru is the brilliant student who plays piano in competition and takes college classes. Unlike the other students, his love is not singular. His twin sister Kozue and Anthy Himemaya, the Rose Bride, hold his heart captive between them.



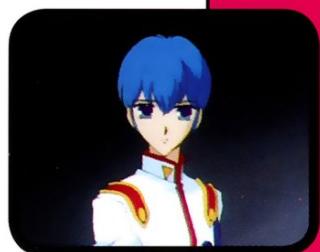
Miki is young, brilliant, and sits as secretary on the Student Council. Miki is the sole Council member who made a point of becoming a true friend of Utena Tenjou. His real interest is in Anthy Himemaya, the Rose Bride. Anthy plays piano like Miki believes his sister, Kozue, once did a very long time ago. Between her gentle demeanour and her finesse at the keyboard, Miki fell hopelessly in love.

The love Miki feels for Anthy fuels the ire in his sister Kozue's heart. Kozue wants to monopolise Miki, for him to think of no other girl but her. When he begins to think about Anthy, Kozue became jealous. Her jealousy of Miki's relationship with his music teacher led her to threaten the teacher, then push him down the stairs. Kozue wants nothing less than to destroy Anthy. Kozue pulls the Heart Sword from Miki's breast so she can wrench away the Rose Bride and murder her.

Despite Kozue's obvious acts of complete malice, Miki still loves his twin sister. Instead of living in separate dorm rooms like normal students, they live together in a small house off campus, a sign of affluence on their part. They even share the same bedroom, their twin beds parallel to one another. Miki likes to offer treats to Kozue, hoping she will open up to him just a little, so they can be like when they were children. Kozue rebuffs all of Miki's attempts at peace, much to his sadness and discontent.

He also tries to fight the Black Rose Circle intellectually. He resists Mikage's charms to join his "seminar" without too much trouble, but once he finds he is fighting them, the first thing he does is hit the books and do research. Miki learns about the nature of the Nemuro Building, and spreads the tale of the 100 boys who died in the fire to both Utena and the Student Council.

Miki is a master of biting wit. He has a comment for every situation, especially when it comes to Nanami. He is not terribly fond of Nanami, and sometimes wishes she would go away. Although they are near one another in age, they are leagues apart in maturity. Miki often uses Nanami as the punch line to his jokes.





Kanae OHTORI

Beautiful and elegant Kanae Ohtori is the Chairman's daughter and the fiancée of Akio Ohtori. She is also the sacrificial lamb of the Black Rose Circle; the first Duellist manipulated by Mikage into a losing duel with Utena Tenjou.



Kanae Ohtori is a senior at Ohtori Academy and the daughter of the Chairman. Her father, before going on a long leave of absence, appointed her fiancé, college student, Akio Ohtori, to the position of Chairman. They live together in the Chairman's apartments beneath the giant, black spectre of the Planetarium observatory.

Kanae cannot conceive of anything as wonderful as graduating from Ohtori Academy and marrying such a wonderful, caring man as Akio. Sadly, Kanae's perfect future has a small flaw: Akio's creepy sister, Anthy Himemaya. Kanae tries to make friends with Anthy, but Anthy just sits, smiling her enigmatic smile. Kanae entreats upon Anthy to call her "Sister," but Anthy just smiles and nods.

Kanae maintains a smile on her face and a firmly perky outlook on life. Inside, she is in turmoil. She wants to marry Akio and she wants to be his perfect wife, but she feels thwarted by Anthy. She wants them all to be a normal, happy family, but inside, she begins to hate Anthy.

Kanae becomes Souji Mikage's first entrant to his grand enterprise of taking the Rose Bride, the Castle Where Eternity Dwells and the Power of Miracles for himself.

Kanae goes down the elevator, retreating into herself as she tells her story to the blank black glass. She tells all to Mikage: she loves Akio, but she cannot deal with Anthy. Kanae has tried to like Anthy, but it is no use. She hates Anthy.

Mikage uses Kanae shamelessly as a guinea pig in his experiments. He gives her a new heart and Mamiya (who is also Anthy) spears her soul with the black rose. Lifeless and dead inside, Kanae fights the duel with Utena, only to lose quickly.

Kanae is limited to her own sword to the Duelling Arena. She has no hold on any of the Student Council members, and derives no strength from their bonds. After she loses her duel, she fades from sight — and from Akio's life. Akio uses Kanae shamelessly to "prime the pump" of Mikage's ambition and get the Black Rose Duels started. Kanae is a proof of concept duellist who proves the seduction of descending into one's own darkness and using hatred as a weapon against Utena Tenjou.

KOZUE KAORU

The diametric opposite of her brother Miki, Kozue Kaoru is a conniving girl. She allows no one to give her brother joy — not his music teacher, not his friends, and certainly not Anthy Himemaya.



Although the two look alike, Kozue is the polar opposite of her twin brother Miki. He is quiet and introspective while she is outrageous and flamboyant. He is very subtle and quiet about his loves while she hops from boyfriend to boyfriend. She does not even bother to change boyfriends — she just adds more when the old one becomes dull. Why bother with limits, when she can have a stable of boys chasing after her!

Where Miki is caring, Kozue is cruel. She claims she hates everything that gives her brother happiness, but she is fiercely protective of her brother to the point of violence. She pushes the music teacher down the stairs and stalks him mercilessly because the teacher said something negative about her brother's piano playing. At the same time, she tortures Miki relentlessly. She throws herself into situations that put her chastity, her good name, and her reputation in doubt just because she knows it hurts Miki terribly.

Even in the depths of cruelty, she shows a sliver of tenderness to her brother. When no one can see, she feels a connection to her twin. The moment someone catches Kozue at this, she denies all feelings for her brother.

What truly hurts Kozue is Miki's interest in Anthy. Miki is all she thinks about. Despite the endless parade of boyfriends, her brother is the only boy for her. When his heart goes to Anthy, it goes away from Kozue, and she cannot cope with the separation. This makes her vulnerable to Mikage's plots.

Kozue can play piano as well as her brother, but refuses to admit it in public. Left alone in the music room, Kozue sits at the keyboard and plays flawlessly. When Miki walks in on her, Kozue is at the height of her anger and Miki at the lowest point of weakness. Kozue pulls a foil from Miki's chest. Unlike Miki, she never learned sword fighting and she never showed interest in the fight, but her eyes light up when she holds the weapon in her hand.

To Kozue, only herself and her brother are worthy of existence. She uses her brother's love as a weapon to destroy Anthy. She is consumed by hatred but hatred is not enough to win a duel in the Duelling Arena. Utena defeats her easily.





SHIORI TAKATSUKI

Shiori, once lost and now found again, holds the strings on Jury's heart. She was once cruelly innocent, punishing Jury for her love. Now, Shiori, older and without the boy, is no longer innocent but merely cruel.



A long time ago, Shiori, Jury and the Fencing Team Captain stood together as one. But Shiori decided she must have the boy to herself. She thought she was stealing the boy away from Jury, but the reality was far subtler.

Shiori left for many years — transferred to another school entirely. She and her boyfriend drifted apart, and eventually broke up. Shiori transferred back to Ohtori Academy for middle school. Now Shiori is back, somewhere between a fresh start and old memories.

Shiori explains to Utena that she was like Jury's sister. Jury was so wonderful, so strong and imposing. Jury always protected her and was a true friend. So close, so warm, so wonderful. They were inseparable.

Shiori broke their love with thoughtless actions. She acted on impulses of young, impressionable love and threw over something more permanent and lasting for the kiss of a cute boy.

Utena naively believes Shiori is the girl Jury wants her to be. The core of Shiori is not goodness, warmth and love. It is stone cold jealousy and a calculating mind that wants to manipulate, use, and dispose of Jury.

The game is over once Shiori lays hands on Jury's pendant and knows Jury's secret — and how did she get that pendant?. She has an ice-cold claw on Jury's heart. Jury is talented, popular, and beautiful. Shiori was always jealous, and plotted to steal something precious.

Jury was kind and caring but, as far as Shiori cared, Jury was kind just to be cruel. It was kindness born out of sympathy and pity. So Shiori took the boy away — and somehow, even when Shiori was gone and the boy was gone, Jury made Shiori feel smaller and worse. Shiori felt pathetic and worthless.

With the pendant and Jury's secret, Shiori *had* something precious. In Shiori's eyes, she and Jury were equals. No, better than that. Shiori beat Jury. Shiori can see Jury alone in her room, crying over the picture in that locket.

Shiori finally has something on Jury — and she's going to use it to revolutionise the world.

Shiori pulls Jury's heart sword. Wielding Jury's skill and power, Shiori yells that she has finally found the real Shiori. All the poise and power and skill conferred by Jury's sword are not enough to defeat Utena, although it gives Utena trouble in the Duelling Arena.

KEIKO SONODA

Keiko Sonoda is Nanami's loyal minion, but her true target is Nanami's Big Brother, Touga. Touga would never like a girl like her, but if she had just one chance to be with him, she would take it.



Alone, Keiko is just another student at Ootori Academy. With her best friends in the entire world, Aiko and Yuko, she is a member of a trio, always together forever but this is not enough. To be one of the popular, *in* girls, they need Nanami.

The three met Nanami the first day Nanami entered the Middle School. Nanami is not just some girl — she is Touga Kiryuu's little sister. Touga is beautiful, wonderful, and perfect. If they could be Nanami's friends, they could be Touga's friends by proxy, and everyone wants to be with Touga. They would be popular, get invites to the best parties, live the perfect lives, be beloved of all, and able to nurse their puppy-love crushes.

Keiko harbours a secret from her two fellow Nanami Cultists — she does not much like Miss Nanami. The dreamy Touga is a different matter. Touga will never notice Keiko, but she must not give up hope.

Keiko puts up with Nanami's constant belittling to catch a sliver of Touga's attention. When Nanami throws a party to snap Touga out of his depression, Keiko jumps to the task. Nanami, unappreciative of Keiko's hard work, orders Keiko away from the party to complete Nanami's Student Council paperwork.

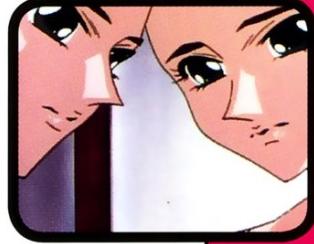
The next day, walking through the rain, Keiko spies Touga, standing alone and soaked. She offers him the use of her orange umbrella, and together, they walk toward the school. Nanami spies the two through the pouring rain.

Later, Nanami confronts Keiko about her betrayal. Not only is Keiko no longer in Nanami's service, Nanami dismisses Keiko from all her clubs, her dorm council and her cultural associations. Even Keiko's friends, Aiko and Yuko, shun her. She is utterly alone.

Keiko internalises her misery and becomes a Black Rose Duellist. Keiko pulls Touga's Heart Sword, although she has the barest of connections to him. He does not give up the sword without agony.

On the Duelling Platform, across from Utena, Keiko has little interest in Utena and less interest in Anthy. Her true target is Nanami. If she can defeat Utena, take and murder the Rose Bride, she can... what? Kill Nanami? Take Touga for herself? See the End of the World?

Utena defeats Keiko, but not without trouble. Touga's sword, even in the hands of inexperienced Keiko, is a terrifying and powerful weapon.





TATSUYA KAZAMI, THE Onion Prince

Tatsuya Kazami was a childhood friend of Wakaba Shinohara's. When they were in elementary school, she named him the Onion Prince. Now, he wants to be Wakaba's Prince, but he cannot compete with Saionji.



Tatsuya Kazami is a boy with no special powers. He has no special destiny. He is just a boy who once knew a girl named Wakaba and against his better judgement stood next to her while girls tormented her. They called her "Onion Head," so Wakaba dubbed Tatsuya "the Onion Prince." He was uncertain and nervous, but he stood up for Wakaba anyway. He moved away during elementary school, but moved back to Ootori Academy during Middle School.

He never forgot Wakaba, even when they were apart. As soon as he returned to Ootori Academy, Tatsuya looked her up and learned all he could about her life as a Middle School student. Tatsuya is a shy and retiring boy, no Saionji or Touga. He does not have the bravery or forwardness to approach Wakaba and ask her on a date. Instead, he hands Utena a love note, knowing well that any love note in Utena's hands will find its way to Wakaba's.

Wakaba flashes a streak of mean spirited jealousy after Tatsuya shows interest in Utena. She angrily denounces Tatsuya to Utena, claiming that he is a playboy and not Utena's type at all.

Tatsuya was distant because he thought Wakaba calling him the Onion Prince was a nasty tease. Once he learned what it really meant, he allowed his heart to thaw toward Wakaba. He opened up, and told her what he truly felt.

Unfortunately, while Tatsuya Kazami is Wakaba's Prince, Wakaba is too blinded by her obsession with Saionji to see it. She leaves Tatsuya standing on a hill, emotionally beaten and bloodied, without looking back.

He had heard a rumour that kids could come to the Nemuro Building and get counselling. Tetsuya tries to sign up for the interview, but no one takes his application. He follows the signs to the elevator and gets in.

Tetsuya talks to the glass. He talks about his princess. He talks about his love. He talks about how much he cares and worries about Wakaba, and how he's willing to wait until the other guy in her life is gone. He confesses his love, and wails. Why is he not good enough? Why is he no good?

Mikage has no use for a boy whose deepest desire is to love his princess. Tatsuya, the Onion Prince, is a good person. The road for him does not lead through revolutionising the world.

CHU-CHU

Chu-Chu is Anthy's best and only "friend." He is small, blue, and ravenous. Where there is lunch, there is Chu-Chu.

Chu-Chu is more of a companion than a pet. He fills the void in Anthy's life where friends should be. As a small companion spirit, he has few powers. Mainly, he just is. His job is to get in trouble. Chu-Chu is almost an extension of Anthy's will, doing things Anthy thinks about doing but would never do herself.

Chu-Chu is afraid of the dark and terrified of Akio Ootori. Although he normally is Anthy's constant and loyal companion, he refuses to accompany her on her weekly trips to visit her brother. This strikes Utena as a bit odd, but not odder than anything else Chu-Chu does.

SOUL OF DIOS

Dios sits sleeping on his shell. In his dreams, he chooses one duellist to be his champion. In mid-duel, his soul descends from the Castle Where Eternity Sleeps and possesses his chosen doppelganger. Although the soul does not assure victory, as the duellists must complete the fight themselves, a willing, prepared, and ready duellist possessed with Dios ends battles swiftly. Once the battle ends, so does the power Dios confers to a duellist.

The few glimpses of Dios are equivalent to Utena's view of her Prince. If Dios is Utena's Prince, then her Prince lives in the Castle where Eternity Dwells at the end of the Duelling game. The only way for her to find her Prince is to win.

THE MEMORY OF MAMIYA CHIDA

Souji Mikage's Mamiya Chiba is a shadow memory, created by Souji Mikage's lingering regret and guilt. Mikage murdered those 100 boys that night, then fashioned a fantasy Mamiya to be his endless companion until the end of time. Mikage projects his guilt onto Mamiya, twisting his memory of that night so it was not he who set the fire, but the boy.

The true Mamiya Chiba died soon after the fire at the Nemuro Building decades before. He was a very ill boy with an undefined, illness, terminal despite the attempts to save him by his sister, Tokiko. Tokiko buried her brother on the Ootori Academy grounds long ago.

TOKIKO CHIDA, PROJECT INSPECTOR

End of the World assigned young Tokiko Chiba as the Inspector to Professor Nemuro's project. Once she took over project management duties, the project moved swiftly toward conclusion. During her tenure, Professor Nemuro fell in love with her. Through her dying brother, Mamiya, Nemuro strove for her heart.

Nemuro's world shattered when he caught Tokiko with Akio Ootori in a passionate embrace. Consumed with rage and betrayal, Nemuro set fire to the building and murdered 100 boys. Mikage began his endless downward spiral.

In contrast to Mikage, Tokiko moved on from that night. Her brother Mamiya died while still a young boy. She left the Academy to live a normal life out in the world of the living. She aged, and grew old. She married, had children, and had grandchildren.





MARI, MITSURU'S FRIEND

Mari is Mitsuru's best friend. She is one year older than he is, and already bragging about her newly discovered womanhood. Although she is still in elementary school, Mari claims she knows everything there is to know about men, women, relationships, and kissing. She is nine going on eighteen, with attitude to spare.

Mari has no great fondness for how Nanami treats Mitsuru. She tries to warn her friend, but he refuses to listen. Mitsuru is too busy following Nanami around to listen to Mari's solid advice about avoiding her.

Mitsuru makes a tactical error in the screening room. Mari explains to Mitsuru that for Mitsuru to be a grown up, he needs to get experience. He then goes in for the kiss. Mari slaps him, of course.

NANAMI'S MINIONS

Three girls named Aiko, Keiko and Yuko follow Nanami around and do her bidding. The three girls antagonise Anthy, preen over Touga, and carry out Nanami's orders. Nanami does not like getting her hands dirty, so she leaves the messy work of getting incriminating photographs, swapping curries, or staging embarrassing situations to her loyal minions.

The three girls use Nanami to raise their own social status among the high school girl population of Ootori Academy. They kick, slap, bite, and abuse others to get what they want. Where Nanami is the brains, they are the brute strength of Nanami's often overblown plans. When Nanami needs Anthy smacked around for some slight, usually at her brother, Nanami's minions are ready to do a little fighting, kicking, and biting in the name of their master.

SUZUKI, YAMADA AND TANAKA

Suzuki, Yamada and Tanaka are three junior high students who write Nanami love letters every day. They spend most of their time being innocuously underfoot — eating curry, doing strange psychic experiments, or following Nanami around in cow suits. They are horrendously jealous of the arrangement between Nanami and Mitsuru. No way should their precious Nanami "date" an elementary school kid, even one as tough and scrappy as Mitsuru.

THE SHADOW GIRLS

The shadow girls, the voice of the school, the sounds of gossip in the halls, the voice of karma: Not supporting cast, or even actual characters, the shadow girls perform abstract kabuki shadow theatre on the walls of Ootori Academy. They represent the ongoing themes in each episode of *Revolutionary Girl Utena*. Just like everyone else in the cast, they are confused with what is going on — and their shadow plays veer off into the bizarre.

SYMBOLISM AND MEANINGS

Revolutionary Girl Utena: the Black Rose Saga is rich in symbolism: flowers, items on desks and names. The following chart maps the various symbols found sprinkled throughout the episodes to their ephemeral meanings.

THE ROSES

Each of the main characters in *Revolutionary Girl Utena: The Black Rose Saga* carries the emblem of a coloured rose.

Akio's Purple Rose

Symbolic color of royalty.
Also "love at first sight."

Anthy's Purple Rose

Symbolic color of royalty.

Utena's Pink Rose

Gentility and grace.

Touga's Red Rose

Romantic Love, Courage and Passion.
Also stands for blood.

Saionji's Green Rose

Pale green stands for friendship.
Dark green for faith, immaturity and envy.

Miki's Light Blue Rose

Intellect and the spirit.
A reflective color of rose.

Jury's Orange Rose

Desire and enthusiasm.

Nanami's Yellow Rose

Friendship and jealousy.

Mamiya's Black Rose

Death and the dead.

BLACK ROSE THORNS

Sin, sorrow and hardship.



THE DESKS

Whenever Utena steps into the Duelling Arena to face one of the Black Rose Duellists, the desks are adorned with symbolic objects. Each object has a specific meaning to the Duellist.

Kanae Ohtori

White lily, the flower of purity and death.

Kozue Kaoru

The milkshake, the bond between herself and Miki

Shiori Takahashi

Birds symbolise the desire to fly higher and reach greater heights.

Mitsuru Tsuwabuki

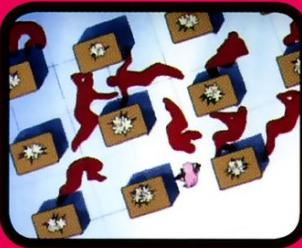
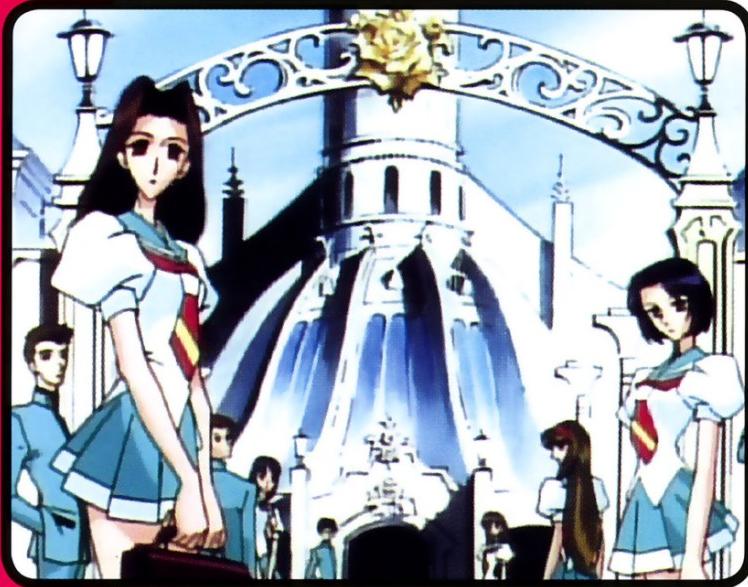
The candy bar is the indirect kiss.

Keiko Sonoda

The umbrella is heaven's canopy, shelter and protection.

SETTING AND PLACES

The Ohtori Academy is an exclusive private school, teaching students from the earliest grades through High School. It has several buildings for classes, an extensive set of same-sex only dormitories, martial arts and fencing rooms, outdoor courts for tennis, and baseball diamonds. In the courtyard of the main building stands the Rose Garden. Large numbers of students attend Ohtori Academy every year.



DUELING ARENA

The Ohtori Academy duelling arena is a strange, tree-lined area isolated from the more mundane sections of the school. An enormous white wall with entangled rose motifs and trees engulfs the tree-lined arena. The door only opens for those wearing the Rose Seal. Inside, a long spiral stairway leads up into the sky. At the very top stands the long, oval duelling platform. A low stone wall surrounds the platform. Over the platform hangs the upside-down Castle Where Eternity Dwells, with its minarets pointing perilously close to the platform floor.

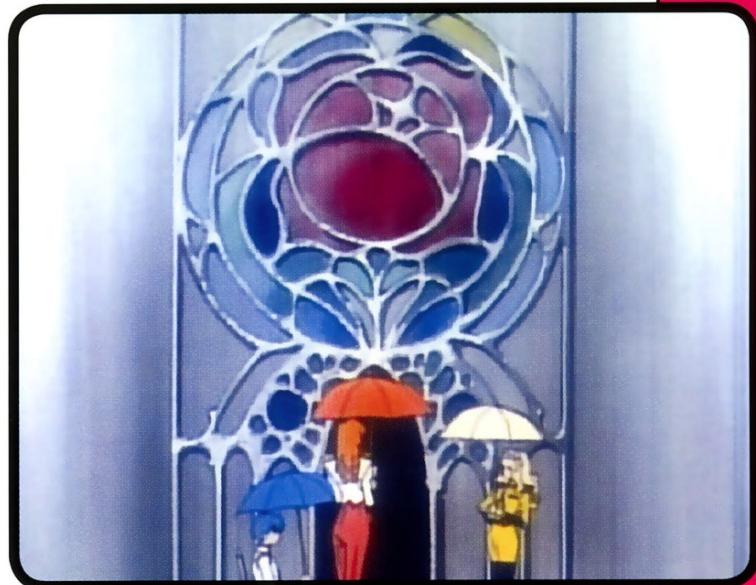
THE PLANETARIUM

The Planetarium sits like a hulking beast in the room at the top of Ohtori Academy's tallest tower. The room is enormous, domed and often dark. Visitors reach it only through elevators on the far side of the room. Planetarium enthusiasts watch the show, or just take tea, from comfortable white couches. Surrounding the Planetarium are the rooms that house the Chairman of Ohtori Academy — or, in this case, the Acting Chairman, Akio Ohtori.

STUDENT COUNCIL TOWER

The Student Council meets atop one of the towers of Ootori Academy. Members access the room on the top of the tower via a special key in the elevator. Only Student Council members have a key.

The meeting “room” for the Student Council is not a room at all. The open-air balcony holds a table and four chairs. Its greatest feature is the view of the duelling arena. With a pair of spyglasses, any of the Student Council members can watch the others duel from afar without being involved.

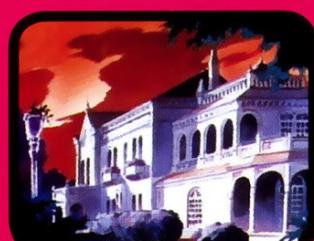


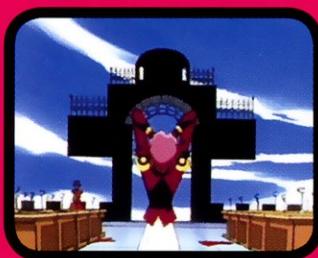
UTENA AND ANTHY'S DORMITORY

Utena and Anthy's room is nice if small. It contains a bunk bed, a desk, a dresser, and a closet. It was originally designated as a single, but Anthy's assignment to the room turned the room into a double. The entire dormitory, while very clean and neat, is devoid of other students. The building is eerily empty, and some of the students call the dormitory “haunted.”

THE KIRYUU MANSION

The Kiryuu Home is a large mansion complex just outside the walls of Ootori Academy. Every possible convenience fills the mansion — servants, cars, money, food, clothing, and entertainment. Balconies sprout from large French windows along the second floor and hang over manicured and nigh-perfect gardens. Ootori Academy's most posh and exclusive parties are held in the Kiryuu Mansion's ballroom.





THE STUDENT COUNCIL

Normally, the Student Council holds sway over student affairs of Ootori Academy. They control clubs, student-teacher relations, and activities with other Academies. After Utena's final defeat of Touga on the Duelling Platform beneath the Castle where Eternity Dwells, the Student Council lays in shambles. End of the World exiled Kyoichi Saionji, Vice President of the Student Council, from the school for duelling on the platform without an invitation and without the Rose Bride.

During the duel, Saionji unintentionally wounded Student Council President Touga Kiryuu on the shoulder. Touga, once firmly in control of the game, now sits despondent and unmoving in his room in the Kiryuu Mansion, listening to the same record over and over again. Nanami Kiryuu, Touga's inept little sister, stepped in and seized control of the Student Council for her own pleasure. Jury and Miki have lost some interest in the game

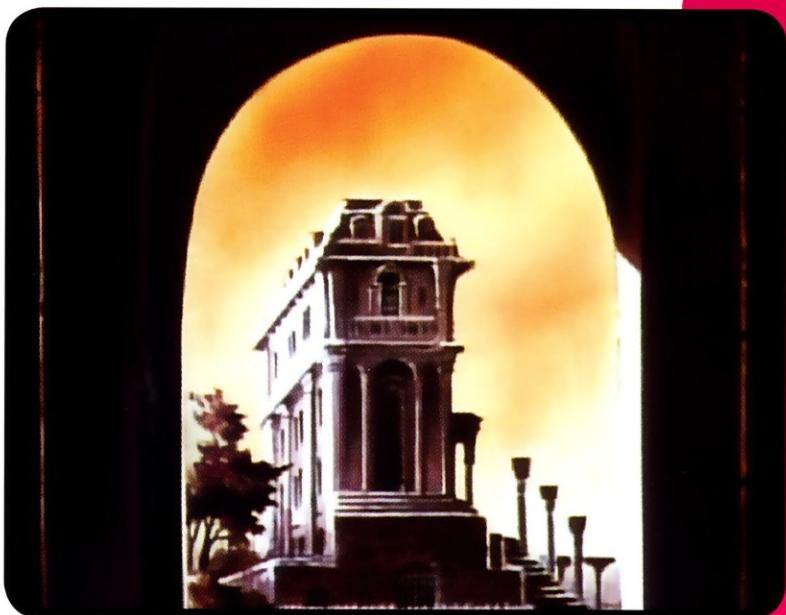
THE BLACK ROSE CIRCLE

The Black Rose Duellists are weaker than the Student Council members are. They have no formal training in combat, and little interest in true Revolution. Their ability to "revolutionise the world" is simply to change things just enough so they can hold onto their childish delusions about the world a little longer.

Mikage claims the Black Rose Circle knows "all" that goes on at Ootori Academy, but more precisely, the Circle knows all about what goes on with the Engaged and the Student Council. Mikage has fingers into realms outside the school: government officials, teachers, professors, and other authority figures. Mikage's connections allow him to keep himself amused through his long life, but have very little real impact on the Duels themselves.

NEMURO MEMORIAL BUILDING

Before Utene came to the Academy, The Hall was filled with scientists, researchers and students all participating as duellists and devoted to the task of finding immortality. The early experiments were often fatal and it was not unusual to see coffins being wheeled through the corridors. When Akito determined that more blood needed to be spilled for him to grasp eternity, he had Mikage (also known as Professor Nemuro) set fire to the building — killing 100 duellists and himself in the process. The Hall was also



consumed by the flames, but the slaughter and destruction opened the doors to the floating castle of eternity that hangs above the duelling arena.

By the time of Utene, the Hall lay in ruins, but Akito was not through with it. To continue to test Utene's resolve Akito resurrected Mikage and used his memory to restore the building to its past glory. Clearly Akito's dark sense of humour lead him to name it after Mikage's dead persona. Mikage's memory was not completely reliable, so when Utene and her associates entered the Hall, they encountered a twisted wonderland. Pictures and objects changed as reality swayed in and out of focus. The empty corridors stretched on endlessly, occasionally lined with symbolic road signs.

Mikage projected his fear and guilt onto the building itself. The elevator shaft is lined with the coffins of the men he killed. The basement walls are the same, and even the shoes of the dead are lined up on the floor. Each coffin contains the body of a dead duellist and from them Mikage retrieves the blackened rose seal that is needed to create a new duellist. An incinerator is hidden behind the walls. When the duellist's ring is destroyed, his coffin falls backwards and is consumed by the fire; as he should have been years ago had his body not been preserved by the ring.

With the death of Mikage, Nemuro Memorial Hall fell to ruins once again and not even the young genius, Miki, can remember its name. Now Akito's secrets lie safely buried beneath the Hall.



HEARTS SWORDS

The Heart Sword is the manifestation of the soul of the victim. Those without swords to fight in the Duelling Arena during Soul Combat must draw them from the souls of someone else. As only those wearing the Rose Crest may wield swords to challenge for the Rose Bride, namely the Student Council, these other, unarmed combatants must extract the Souls of the Duellists and wield them in the physical forms of swords.

The connection between wielder and victim is of pain, hatred, and suffering. The drawing of the Heart Sword is against the will of the victim and is an unpleasant experience that leaves the victim helpless, unconscious, and with a lingering feeling of being used. Some fight the taking of their Heart Swords so violently they scream and thrash as the sword is drawn.

Once the sword returns to the breast of the victim, the victim feels whole, although disoriented. The tethers of hated and suffering that bound the victim to the sword's wielder snap with defeat. The victim feels a sort of strange relief, and the wielder does not remember the source of pain.

Heart Swords confer through the Transfer Attribute one-half (Skill / 2, rounded down) of any Melee Combat and Melee Defence Skills and any Combat Manoeuvres of the victim. Combat Manoeuvres, Melee Combat and Melee Defence bonuses stack with previously existing Skills and Attributes. Flavour, like knowledge of combat stance, basic manoeuvres and technique convey from the victim to the owner of the Heart Sword. For example, if the victim is an expert in a certain fencing technique, the owner of the Heart Sword can mimic that particular fencing technique in the Duelling Arena.

CYCICAL DUELS

Souji Mikage was a relic of a previous Duelling Game. It ended without a winner; Souji Mikage murdered the other contestants for the Rose Bride before playing out the permutations of duels for a true winner. Everyone – including the souls of the 100 dead Duellists – clung to Ohtori Academy until the game resolved itself, one way or another. Mikage never aged. He continued with experiments in hopes of “inventing” an answer to End of the World’s initial challenge while refusing to go to the Duelling Arena and take the Rose Bride.

Mikage’s version of the Duelling Game took the form of scientific puzzles, because End of the World tailored the game to fit the one true Duellist: Mikage. The contests do not have to take that form. They can take any form that pleases End of the World, including a straight out slugfest to the very top, a contest designed for Utena Tenjou. Nemuro’s fight was then; Utena’s is now.

The Nemuro Building was the foundation of one of the many different permutations the Duelling Contest can take. The rules of the game are fluid and controlled by the one ascending. The one ascending at that time was Nemuro -- but now his time is over.

Even after Mikage throwing the original Duel, the Duels keep rolling on. End of the World simply

started a new contest, presumably with new Duellists in a new permutation. Mikage stayed at Ohtori Academy, trapped in perpetual youth without any way to escape the school. The Duels continued without him. He injected himself into Utena’s Duel because he found a permutation of the Duelling game he could hijack and possibly win. A new version of a Duel means playing by new rules. If the new rules stipulate sword fights, every Duellist must fight with swords.

Presumably, after Utena, win or lose, End of the World will simply restart the game with new players, a new pre-ordained champion, and a new set of rules. He will let that game run to its conclusion, and then restart it again until either the end of time, or someone bests End of the World at his own game.

At the very end, Mikage’s version of the game is complete. He has played, and lost. He cannot possibly win. End of the World “graduates” Mikage from Ohtori Academy and sends him out into the “real” world. Once a Duellist leaves Ohtori Academy, everything about him or her – names, places, friends, relationships and history – all disappear from the Academy, including the minds of the Students. When Mikage graduates from Ohtori, all memory of Mikage, the 100 dead Duellists, and the Nemuro Building, disappear. The Nemuro Building returns to rubble.

MAKING THE BLACK ROSE DUELLIST

Mikage must be selective in his choice of candidates to fulfil his plan of generating fusion Duellists with the Student Council. Prospective new duellists must meet two criteria:

- He or she must have a personal hold on one of the Student Council members or the Rose Bride herself. This personal hold does not need to be two-way; the prospective Duellist may be obsessed with the Student Council member in question.
- He or she must desire the heart of the Student Council member for themselves — to bolster their own self image or otherwise make themselves more than they are.

Mikage rejects those who do not meet the criteria as “not having the path prepared before them.”

Interviews take place in the elevator of the Nemuro Building. The prospective candidate approaches a desk and fills out the proper forms, then follow the signs to the elevator. Once in the elevator they sit and expose their deepest desires to Souji Mikage.

The prospective Duellist crawls into their souls while the elevator descends. The sign overhead reflects their progress: the butterfly, to the cocoon, to the larva, to the leaf. As they go deeper, they find reasons to wrack themselves with hatred and misery: powerlessness, betrayal, uselessness, and feelings of manipulation. The more flowing pain, the more connections they feel to the heart of their desires. At

the end of the trip, all that remains is a shell of a person — ripe for the taking by Mikage and Mamiya.

Once selected, Mikage opens the path for the Duellists to “Revolutionise the World” — his phrase for destroying the Rose Bride and replacing the core of the world with his own vision, Mamiya. Deep in the Nemuro Building where the Black Rose grows, Mamiya stabs the new Duellist through the heart with the Black Rose. The Black Rose removes all feeling and replaces the Duellist’s heart with raw, undiluted hate.

Mikage slips one of the Black Rose Crests from one of the 100 boys who died in the fire onto the Duellist’s hand instead of a real Rose Crest. No one without a Rose Crest may enter the Duelling Arena. These Crests work only once and each new Black Rose Duellist can only challenge the Engaged in a single engagement for the Rose Bride.

Once the Interview is complete, the new Duellist acquires a weapon, either normally or through the heart of another. Black Rose Duellists may use physical swords, as do Student Council members but heart swords are more potent weapons. The Black Rose Duellist must take a sword from the soul of another, and that other must possess a Rose Crest and have an emotional connection to the intended victim. The connection may be one-way; the victim Duellist does not have to return love or lust.

Once armed, bearing a Crest, and with a heart of flowers, the new Duellist is prepared to face Utena Tenjou for the Rose Bride.

THE BLACK ROSE AND THE BLACK ROSE CREST

The Student Council is not without its uses to Souji Mikage. In the previous duels, the Student Council members carried their physical swords into the duelling arena. Although the swords were enough to cut clothing and ultimately leave a wound in Touga’s shoulder, the physical weapons were inadequate to defeat Utena and thus move any of the Student Council along the path to the final duel.

Souji Mikage conceives of a plan. He is well informed about the mechanics of the duels proscribed by the End of the World. On the platform, the combat is about the clash of souls and the test of will. Physical combat is left behind in Jury’s fencing arena and Saionji’s kendo hall.

The swords strong enough to defeat Utena Tenjou are crystallised in the hearts of the Student

Council. Despite this, all of the Student Council members have already fallen to Utena — clearly, they are weak duellists who should not grace the duelling arena with their tarnished presence. Few are strong enough to tap the power of their own hearts. Therefore, Mikage needs a fusion. He prefers to entrust the power of those hearts to others.

Mikage requires duellists who have a hold on the souls of the Student Council members. Those chosen Duellists, now marked with the Black Rose Crest ring, will reach in and draw their swords directly from the hearts of their intended victims. With Heart Sword in hand, he or she challenges Utena Tenjou to a duel to win the Rose Bride — whom the Black Rose Duellists plan to murder.

REVOLUTIONARY GIRL UTENA CREDITS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAST

Utena Tenjou/Chu-Chu	Rachel Lillis
Anthy Himemaya	Sharon Becker
Wakaba Shinohara/Kozue Kaoru	Roxanne Beck
Nanami Kiryuu	Leah Applebaum
Touga Kiryuu	Crispin Freeman
Kyoichi Saionji	Jack Taylor
Jury Arisugawa/Keiko Sonoda	Mandy Bonhomme
Miki Kaoru	Jimmy Zoppi
Akio Ohtori	Josh Mosby
Shiori Takatsuki	Lisa Ortz
Mitsuru Tsuwabuki	Ed Paul
Souji Mikage	Dan Green
Mamiya Chiba	Liam O'Brien
Yuko	Elizabeth Tarpon
Tokiko	Tara Jayne
Other Voices	Carol Jacobanis, Mandy Bonhomme

JAPANESE LANGUAGE CAST

Utena Tenjou	Tomoko Kawakami
Anthy Himemaya	Yuriko Fuchizaki
Wakaba Shinohara	Yuka Imai
Nanami Kiryuu	Yuri Siratori
Touga Kiryuu	Takechito Koyasu
Kyoichi Saionji	Takeshi Kusao
Jury Arisugawa	Kotonori Mitsuishi
Miki Kaoru	Aya Hiskawa
Chu-Chu	Satomi Koorogi
Kozue Kaoru	Chieko Honda
Akio Ohtori	Jurota Kosugi
Shiori Takatsuki	Kumiko Nishihara
Mitsuru Tsuwabuki	Akiko Yajima
Keiko Sonoda	Rei Nakagawa
Souji Mikage	Hikaru Midorikawa
Mamiya Chiba	Maria Kawamura

BEHIND THE SCENES

Original Story	B-PAPAS
Story	Kunihiro Ikuhara
Director	Kunihiro Ikuhara
Story & Original Character Design	Chiho Saito (Published by SHOGAKU-KAN)
Series Structure	Yoji Enokido
Character Design	Shinya Hasegawa
Conceptual Design	Hiroshi Nagahama
Assistant Directors	Shingo Kaneko, Toru Takahashi
Art Director	Shichiro Kobayashi
Color Design	Kunio Kunion
Color Setting	Mayumi Tanahashi
Music	Shingo Mitsumune
Chorus Arrangement	J.A. Seazer
Music Cooperation	TV Tokyo Music
Opening Theme Song	Title: "Revolution"
Lyrics	Masami Okui
Composer	Toshiro Yabuki
Singer	Masami Okui
Ending Theme Song — Title: "The Truth"	
Lyrics	Seiko Fujibayashi
Composer	Riki Arai
Arranger	Akihiko Hirama
Singer	Ruka Yuumi, STARCHILD RECORDS
Music Director	Hideyuki Tanaka
Photography Editor	Toyomitsu Nakajo
Editing	Shigeru Nishiyama (TABAKKU)
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Series Development	Yuichiro Oguro
Producers	Noriko Kobayashi (TV TOKYO), Shinichi Ikeda (YOMIYURI ADVERTISING)
Animation Producer	Tomoko Kawasaki
Animation Coordinator	Yuji Matsukura
Publicity	Masami Sae (TV TOKYO)
Animation Production	J.C.STAFF
Produced by	TV TOKYO/YOMIYURI ADVERTISING
Script Writer	Yoji Enokido
Storyboard	Kunihiro Ikuhara

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Yutaka Nakamura, Yumi Kato, Kazunori Iwakura,
Fusanobe Kikuchi, Keisuke Watanabe, Singo Ishikawa,
Isatoshi Ogura, Junichi Takaoka, Keizo Goto

Drawing Inspection

Noriko Kitazwa

Animation Drawing

Kazue Yoshida, Akiko Funakoshi,
Masayuki Nishihara, Yuki Harada,

Kentaro Tanaka, Kazuhiro Muima,
Tomohiro Imaizumi, Hiroki Okamoto,

Chieko Nakamura

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KOBAYASHI PRODUCTION

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Misa Kasia, Rie Oda, Kazuhiko Takahashi

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Mayumi Tanahashi

Finishing

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Yoshio Takahashi, Tomomi Ando,
Ryoko Sato, Takeshi Izawa,

Satosi Abe, Tomohiro Mitsu

J.C.STAFF

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Yumiko Kobayashi, Yoko Sato, Nozom Sakai, Shiro Kuki
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Tatsuya Oka, Yumi Kato, Hisashi Saito,
Nobuyuki Takeuchi, Mineyuki Tsuru,

Shinya Hasegawa, Koji Masuda,

Hiroshi Yoshinari

Hiroshi Nagahama

Yasuo Tachibana

Yoshio Ohara

Yasuyuki Konno

TABAKKU

AUDIO TANAKA

TOKYO LABORATORY

Hiroshi Kishino

Yoshihito Kinoshita (TOKYO LAB)

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STUDIO YU

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Toru Takahashi

Jun Kato

Masaki Kondo

In-House Production Manager

Tim Werenko

Justin Sevakis

Audio Plus Video

Tricia Jagroop

SONG CREDITS

Watashi Kuuusuo Seimeitai (I am an Imaginary Living Body)

J.A. Seazer

Music and Words

Shinkichi Mitsumune

Arranged

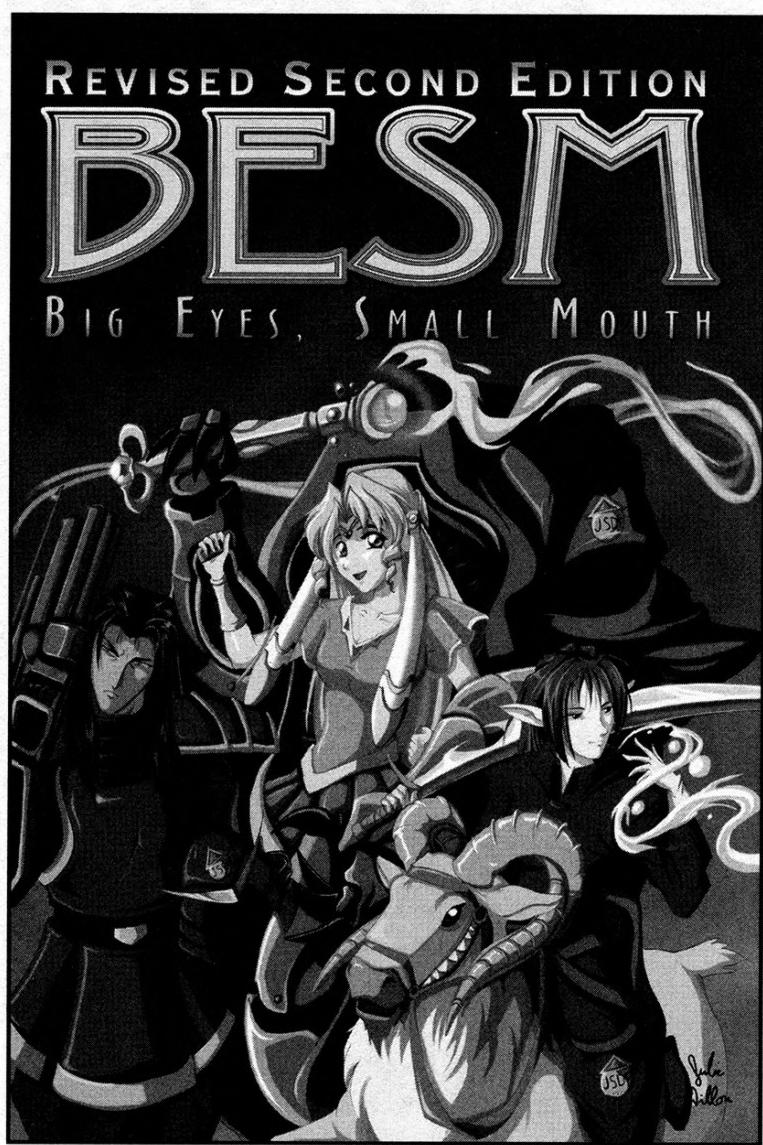
Tokyo Konsei Gasshodan & Engekijikkenshitsu

"Banyu-inryoku"

ENGLISH LANGUAGE VERSION

Executive Producer	John O'Donnell
Producer	Stephanie Shalofsky
Production Coordinator	Karen Havle
Dubbing Supervisor	Tom Wayland
English Language Audio Post Production	Taj Productions
English Language ADR Director	Anthony Salerno
Translation	Neil Nadelman
DVD Coordinator	Eric Thomann, Amber Kusmenko
DVD Subtitles	Captions, Inc.

REVOLUTIONARY GIRL UTENA AND ROLE-PLAYING



The *Revolutionary Girl Utene* universe is a great setting for an anime-based *BESM* campaign, with a mix of high school romance, intrigue, and mysterious duels. Although most of *BESM Revolutionary Girl Utene* #2 provides resource and reference material for the series, the following information is for those who wish to role-play in the world of *Revolutionary Girl Utene*.

BESM REVOLUTIONARY GIRL UTENA

Guardians of Order publishes two other *BESM Revolutionary Girl Utene* books:

BESM Revolutionary Girl Utene #1: The Rose Collection
ISBN 1-894525-80-9; Product Code 02-921; Price \$19.95USD
\$25.95CAN

BESM Revolutionary Girl Utene #3: The Apocalypse Saga
ISBN 1-894938-14-3; Product Code 02-923; Price \$19.95USD
\$25.95CAN

Big Eyes, Small Mouth

Guardians of Order publishes a multi-genre Japanese anime role-playing game called *Big Eyes Small Mouth*, first in a standard edition (ISBN 1-894525-09-4) and later in a Revised Second Edition (ISBN 1-894525-45-0). *BESM* contains all the game rules, mechanics, and guidelines you need to establish an anime RPG campaign in any setting, genre, or period.

If you plan on hosting your game within the *Revolutionary Girl Utene* setting, you may wish to use the game statistics provided for the series characters. Additionally, the reference list, rules, and suggestions for incorporating *Revolutionary Girl Utene* elements into your game can provide vital insight into campaign construction. *Revolutionary Girl Utene*-specific material, in combination with the core *BESM* rules, gives you everything you need to start role-playing right away.

If you are unfamiliar with the concept of table-top RPG and would like to learn more on the Internet, please visit Guardian of Order's website at <http://www.guardiansorder.com>.

BESM AND REVOLUTIONARY GIRL UTENA

Use the guidelines below when building your own *Revolutionary Girl Utena* characters:

- Use the Teenage Romance Skill costs chart from BESM. Skills cap at 3 Levels/Skill, although some characters are world-class in their abilities with the sword or the piano.
- *Revolutionary Girl Utena* uses Energy Points for soul duelling and soul combat. Consequently, each rank in the Soul Stat costs 2 Points instead of only 1.
- Many *Utena* characters are attractive, and thus the Attractive Attribute is not required.

CHARACTERS OF REVOLUTIONARY GIRL UTENA

The characters of *Revolutionary Girl Utena* cost between 10 and 50 Points depending on the age and experience of the character. The wide range reflects the range of life experience and acquired abilities. Some characters, like Nanami, are only 13 years old and relatively weak, thus they are built on few Points. Touga, however, is nearing adulthood and costs more Points.

Only Attributes and Defects applicable to normal human characters can be bought with Points for *Revolutionary Girl Utena*. Attributes that unnaturally modify a character (Elasticity, Extra Arms, etc.) or confer magical powers onto the character (Dynamic Sorcery, Flight, Force Field, etc.) are not used in character creation.

Use discretion when building a character. If the power does not fit into the atmosphere of Ootori Academy or the duelling arena, it likely should not be used in creating a character for *Revolutionary Girl Utena*.

SOUL COMBAT AND THE DUEL FOR THE ROSE BRIDE

Soul combat attacks are Soul attacks — duellists roll against their Soul Stats to attack and defend, rather than Attack and Defence Combat Values. The damage from a Soul attack is equivalent to a physical attack. Damage, though, is applied to the character's Energy Points instead of Health Points. When a character is reduced to zero or below Energy Points, the opposing character has removed the rose from the losing character's breast and ends the duel. The victor now becomes engaged to the Rose Bride. Soul Combat is further explained in *BESM Revolutionary Girl Utena Book #1*.

NEW KENSEI ABILITIES

Kensei is described in detail on page 46 of *BESM*.

LEAP ATTACK

The character can make leaping attacks with his or her melee weapon, delivering additional damage due to momentum. Any time the character has a higher Initiative than his or her opponent, he or she may attempt a leaping attack. If the strike is successful (it hits and the target fails a defence) the character gets an extra +5 bonus to damage and may additionally add his or her Acrobatics Skill Level (if any) to the damage. If the character fails to hit, however, or the opponent succeeds with his or her defence, the character is off balance and receives a -2 penalty to any further defence checks until his or her turn to act in the following round.

LIGHTNING REFLEXES

The character reacts quickly in combat and frequently outmanoeuvres opponents. Each time this technique is selected, the character gains +5 to all his or her Initiative rolls.

ITEMS OF POWER

THE SOUL OF DIOS (20 POINTS)

During a duel for the Rose Bride, the Soul of Dios may descend from the Castle Where Eternity Dwells and possess one character.

The Soul of Dios temporarily transfers the listed Attributes onto the possessed character. It cannot be permanently owned by any one character. The possession only happens during a duel, and ends the moment the duel ends. The Soul of Dios cannot be used for any purpose other than to end a duel. Its transferred Attributes may only be used in soul combat. The transferred attributes do not add to physical, normal combat.

ATTRIBUTES

Energy Bonus	2
Enhanced Stat [Soul]	5
Massive Damage (Energy Points)	4

MAGIC COW-STIAN DIOR COWBELL (3 POINTS)

The magic Cow-stian Dior Cowbell turns anyone who wears it into a cow! Not instantaneously, of course — it takes time to turn into a proper cow. The victim must get into the

cow mindset. He or she turns into a cow gradually, starting with cow tendencies, moving into cow fashion and finally cow cuisine. If the victim does not take off the cowbell in time, he or she will stay a cow forever!

ATTRIBUTES

Contamination (Cow; Difficult) 3

THE SWORD OF DIOS (20 POINTS)

The Sword of Dios is the sword pulled from Anthy Himemaya's chest by the Engaged during a duel for the Rose Bride. The sword confers "vast power" to any who know its secrets. The character using the Sword of Dios gains a temporary Item of Power, usable only during that specific duel. It does not exist outside the duelling platform, and cannot be used in any other sword fight. When the combat is concluded, the sword disappears.

ATTRIBUTES

Energy Bonus	3
Weapon Attack (60 Damage; Hand-held, Quake, Melee)	4
Weapon Attack (15 Damage; Drain Soul, Soul Attack, Melee, No Damage)	1

NEW ATTRIBUTES

The Soul of Dios – and perhaps other Items of Power – are able to give characters benefits above and beyond those in *BESM*.

ENHANCED STAT

COST: 1 or 2 Points/Level

This Attribute is useful when a character should have one or more high Stat Values, but the player wants to indicate that the elevated Stats were gained after a supernatural event occurred or a particular item was acquired. For most instances, assigning Character Points to the Enhanced [Stat] Attribute or to the Stat directly results in the same benefit: a character with a Soul of 10 or a Soul of 7 with Enhanced [Soul] at Level 3 both have a Soul of 10. Enhanced [Soul] costs 2 Points/Level, while Enhanced [Body] or [Mind] costs 1 Point/Level.

ORGANISATIONAL TIES (STUDENT COUNCIL)

COST: 3 Points/Level

Membership in the Student Council gives a character tremendous power at the Ohtori Academy, and is thus worth 3 Points/Level.

NEW SKILLS

Some characters in *Revolutionary Girl Utena: The Black Rose Saga* have skills that are not covered in BESM.

New Skill Costs

GENERAL SKILLS	TEENAGE ROMANCE
Area Knowledge	3
Artisan	2
Domestic Arts	4
Etiquette	3
Intimidation	2

AREA KNOWLEDGE

RELEVANT STAT: Mind

SPECIALISATIONS: One specific locale (such as Ohtori Academy) within the area

Knowledge of the geography and people of a single area (choose one area) and a specific locale within it. The smaller the area, the more detailed and extensive the character's knowledge. This Skill may be assigned multiple times to indicate knowledge of several areas.

ARTISAN

RELEVANT STAT: Average of Body and Soul

SPECIALISATIONS: Carpentry, Flower Arranging, Metalworking, Tailoring, Woodworking

This Skill represents a character's ability to work with a variety of materials to repair or produce useful or aesthetically pleasing objects not electronic or mechanical in nature.

DOMESTIC ARTS

RELEVANT STAT: Mind or Soul

SPECIALISATIONS: Cleaning, Cooking, Decorating, Home Budgeting

The ability to efficiently organise and run a domestic household.

ETIQUETTE

RELEVANT STAT: Mind

SPECIALISATIONS: Lower Class, Middle Class, Upper Class

The knowledge of polite, proper, and inoffensive behaviour in social settings.

INTIMIDATION

RELEVANT STAT: Body, Mind, or Soul

SPECIALISATIONS: Business, Political, Schoolyard, Street

The ability to convincingly project a "tough guy" image. A successful check means someone witnessing your performance is convinced you mean any threats you make. How they react after that will depend on how tough they are themselves in relation to the kind of threat you present — they may respond with respect, fear, hatred, or amusement.

UTENA TENJOU

Total Character Points 38 / Total Skill Points 30

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Mind Stat

5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Soul Stat

10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

DERIVED VALUES

Attack Combat Value

6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Defense Combat Value

4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Health Points

75	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

Energy Points

75	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

ATTRIBUTES

Divine Relationship

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Extra Attacks

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Highly Skilled

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SKILLS

Riding (Horse)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Sports (Basketball)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Melee Attack (Sword of Dios)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Melee Defence (Sword of Dios)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Anthy Himemiya

Total Character Points 40 / Total Skill Points 30

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Mind Stat

Soul Stat

DERIVED VALUES

Attack Combat Value

6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
65	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
75	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120

Defense Combat Value

Health Points

Energy Points

ATTRIBUTES

Divine Relationship

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6

Highly Skilled

Metamorphosis (Mamiya Chiba)

Organisational Ties (Student Council)

Servant (Chu-Chu)

SKILLS

Artisan (Flower Arranging)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	1	2	3	4	5	6

Domestic Arts (Gardening)

Etiquette (Upper Class)

Cultural Arts (Occult)

Performing Arts (Piano)

DEFECTS

Unique Defect: Rose Bride

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	1	2	3	4	5	6

Owned (Engaged)

CHU-CHU (5 CHARACTER POINTS, 0 SKILL POINTS)

Body 1 Mind 2 Soul 2

Health Points 15 Energy Points 20

Attack Combat Value 1 Defence Combat Value 1

ATTRIBUTES

Features (Prehensile Tail) 1, Heightened Senses (Vision) 1, Divine Relationship 1

DEFECTS

Diminutive -3, Unskilled -2

AKIO OHTORI/END OF THE WORLD

Total Character Points 70 / Total Skill Points 80

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Mind Stat

9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Soul Stat

9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

DERIVED VALUES

Attack Combat Value

9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Defense Combat Value

7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Health Points

90	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

Energy Points

90	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

ATTRIBUTES

Features (Longevity)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Highly Skilled

6	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Organisational Ties (Student Council)

6	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Unique Character Attribute (Wealth)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SKILLS

Area Knowledge (Ohtori Academy)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Etiquette (Upper Class)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Business Management (Educational)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Cultural Arts (Occultism)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Intimidation (Political)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Physical Sciences (Astronomy)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Seduction (Female)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---



SOUJI MIKAGE / PROFESSOR NEMURO

Total Character Points 48 / Total Skill Points 60

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Mind Stat

10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Soul Stat

7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

DERIVED VALUES

Attack Combat Value

8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Defense Combat Value

6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Health Points

70	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

Energy Points

85	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

ATTRIBUTES

Features (Longevity)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Highly Skilled

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Organisational Ties

6	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

• Circle of the Black Rose

SKILLS

Area Knowledge (Ohtori Academy)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Business Management (Educational)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Cultural Arts (Occultism)

5	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Etiquette (Upper Class)

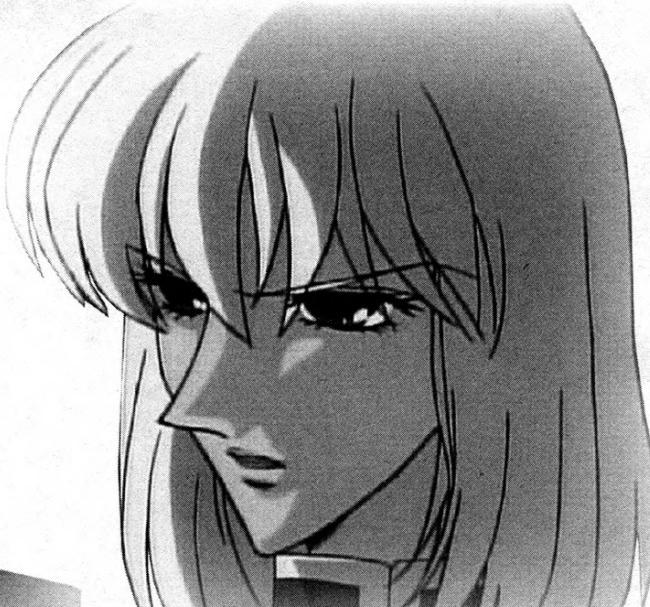
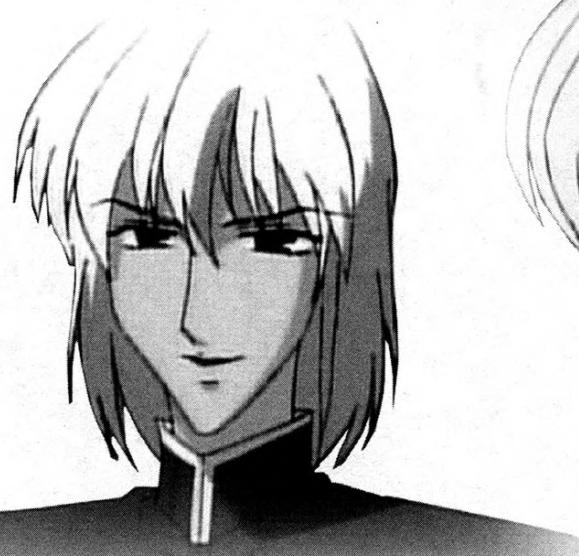
2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Physical Sciences (Physics)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Social Sciences (Psychology)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---



TOUGA KIRYUU

Total Character Points 54 / Total Skill Points 60

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Mind Stat

8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Soul Stat

6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

DERIVED VALUES

Attack Combat Value

7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Defense Combat Value

5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Health Points

80	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

Energy Points

70	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

ATTRIBUTES

Divine Relationship

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Extra Attacks

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Highly Skilled

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Kensei

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- Judge Opponent, Lightning Reflexes)

Organisational Ties (Student Council)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Damn Healthy!

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Unique Character Attribute (Wealth)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SKILLS

Etiquette (Upper Class)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Cultural Arts (Occultism)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Seduction (Female)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Melee Attack (Kendo)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Melee Defence (Kendo)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

DEFECTS

Unique Character Defect (Famous)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

THE SWORD OF TOUGA KIRYUU (10 POINTS)

Touga Kiryuu's sword is a long katana used in kendo-style sword fighting. Keiko Sonoda pulls it from his chest.

ATTRIBUTES

Combat Mastery

2

Extra Attacks

1

Kensei (Judge Opponent, Lightning Reflexes)

2

KYOICHI SAIONJI

Total Character Points 30 / Total Skill Points 30

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Mind Stat

4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Soul Stat

5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

DERIVED VALUES

Attack Combat Value

5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Defense Combat Value

3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Health Points

60	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

Energy Points

45	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

ATTRIBUTES

Extra Attacks

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Highly Skilled

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Kensei (Leap Attack)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SKILLS

Intimidation (Political)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Cultural Arts (Occultism)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Melee Attack (Kendo)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Melee Defence (Kendo)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

DEFECTS

Unique Character Defect

1	1	2
---	---	---

- Obsessed with Anthy

THE SWORD OF KYOICHI SAIONJI (11 Points)

Like Touga Kiryuu's sword, Kyoichi Saionji's a two-handed kendo-style katana. Wakaba Shinohara pulls it from Saionji's chest.

ATTRIBUTES

Combat Mastery

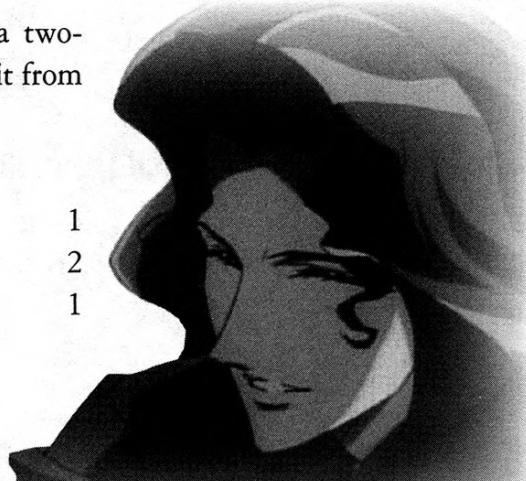
1

Extra Attacks

2

Kensei (Leap Attack)

1



JURY ARISUGAWA

Total Character Points 45 / Total Skill Points 40

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Mind Stat

Soul Stat

Attack Combat Value

DERIVED VALUES

Defense Combat Value

7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
65	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
70	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120

Health Points

Energy Points

ATTRIBUTES

Extra Attacks

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	1	2	3	4	5	6

• Judge Opponent, Lightning Reflexes, Precise Stroke

Organisational Ties (Student Council)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SKILLS

Intimidation (Political)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
4	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	1	2	3	4	5	6
0	1	2	3	4	5	6

Melee Attack (Foil)

Melee Defence (Foil)

2 Unused Skill Points

THE SWORD OF JURY ARISUGAWA (11 POINTS)

Jury Arisugawa's sword is an unremarkable one-handed fencing foil. Shiori Takatsuki pulls the sword from Jury's chest.

ATTRIBUTES

Combat Mastery

2

Extra Attacks

1

Kensei

3

• Judge Opponent, Lightning Reflexes, Precise Stroke



Miki "Mickey" Kaoru

Total Character Points 48 / Total Skill Points 40

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Mind Stat

10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Soul Stat

6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

DERIVED VALUES

Attack Combat Value

7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Defense Combat Value

5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----

Health Points

60	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

Energy Points

80	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----	-----	-----

ATTRIBUTES

Kensei

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- Lightning Reflexes

Extra Attacks

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Focused Damage (Foil)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Heightened Awareness

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Heightened Senses (Musical Ear)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Highly Skilled

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Organisational Ties (Student Council)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

SKILLS

Business Management

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

- Student Council

Performing Arts (Piano)

4	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Melee Attack (Foil)

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Melee Defence (Foil)

1	1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

THE SWORD OF MIKI KAORU (10 POINTS)

Miki Kaoru's sword is an unremarkable one-handed fencing foil. Kozue Kaoru pulls the sword from Miki's chest.

ATTRIBUTES

Combat Mastery

1

Extra Attacks

1

Focussed Damage (Foil)

1

Heightened Awareness

2

Kensei

1

- Judge Opponent, Lightning Reflexes, Precise Stroke



Nanami KIRYUU

Total Character Points 38 / Total Skill Points 20

CHARACTER STATS

Body Stat

4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Mind Stat

Soul Stat

Attack Combat Value

4	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
40	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
50	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120

Defense Combat Value

Health Points

Energy Points

Flunkies

3	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	1	2	3	4	5	6
5	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6

Organisational Ties (Student Council)

Servant (Mitsuru Tsuwabuki)

Unique Character Attribute (Wealth)

SKILLS

Etiquette (Upper Class)

2	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1	2	3	4	5	6

Seduction (Male)

Melee Attack (Kendo)

Melee Defence (Kendo)

THE SWORD OF NANAMI KIRYUU (2 Points)

Nanami fights with a short sword/main gauche combination.

Mitsuru Tsuwabuki pulls both weapons from Nanami's chest.

ATTRIBUTES

Combat Mastery

1

Nanami's Minions – Aiko, Keiko, Yuko

Total Character Points 10 / Total Skill Points 0

Body 3 Mind 4 Soul 2

Health Points 25 Energy Points 30

Attack Combat Value 3 Defence Combat Value 1

SKILLS

Area Knowledge (Ohtori Academy) 2, Domestic Arts (Cooking) 1

DEFECTS

Unskilled -1

WAKABA SHINOHARA

Total Character Points 15 / Total Skill Points 10

Body 5 Mind 4 Soul 4

Health Points 45 Energy Points 45

Attack Combat Value 4 Defence Combat Value 2

ATTRIBUTES

Divine Relationship 2

SKILLS

Area Knowledge (Ohtori Academy) 2, Domestic Arts (Cooking) 1

DEFECTS

Unskilled -1

KOZUE KAORU

Total Character Points 25 / Total Skill Points 20

Body 4 Mind 4 Soul 4

Health Points 50 Energy Points 40

Attack Combat Value 4 Defence Combat Value 2

ATTRIBUTES

Divine Relationship 2,

Organisational Ties (Student Council) 2, Damn Healthy! 1

SKILLS

Area Knowledge (Ohtori Academy) 2, Etiquette (Upper Class) 3, Seduction (Male) 1,
Unused Skill Points 1

MITSURU TSUWABUKI

Total Character Points 25 / Total Skill Points 20

Body 4 Mind 5 Soul 6

Health Points 50 Energy Points 55

Attack Combat Value 1 Defence Combat Value 5

ATTRIBUTES

Divine Relationship 1,

Organisational Ties (Student Council) 1

SKILLS

Area Knowledge (Ohtori Academy) 3, Domestic Arts (Cooking) 2, Etiquette (Upper Class) 1



Kanae Ohtori

Total Character Points 25 / Total Skill Points 20

Body 4 Mind 5 Soul 6

Health Points 50 Energy Points 55

Attack Combat Value 5 Defence Combat Value 3

ATTRIBUTES

Organisational Ties (Ohtori Academy) 2

SKILLS

Business Management (Educational) 1, Etiquette (Upper Class) 2, Seduction (Male) 3

Shiori Takatsuki

Total Character Points 18 / Total Skill Points 20

Body 4 Mind 5 Soul 4

Health Points 40 Energy Points 45

Attack Combat Value 4 Defence Combat Value 2

ATTRIBUTES

Divine Relationship 1

SKILLS

Domestic Arts (Homemaking) 2, Seduction (Male) 3

Tatsuya Kazami

Total Character Points 20 / Total Skill Points 10

Body 5 Mind 5 Soul 6

Health Points 55 Energy Points 55

Attack Combat Value 5 Defence Combat Value 3

SKILLS

Area Knowledge (Ohtori Academy) 2, Etiquette 3,
Urban Tracking (Ohtori Academy) 1, Unused Skill Points 2



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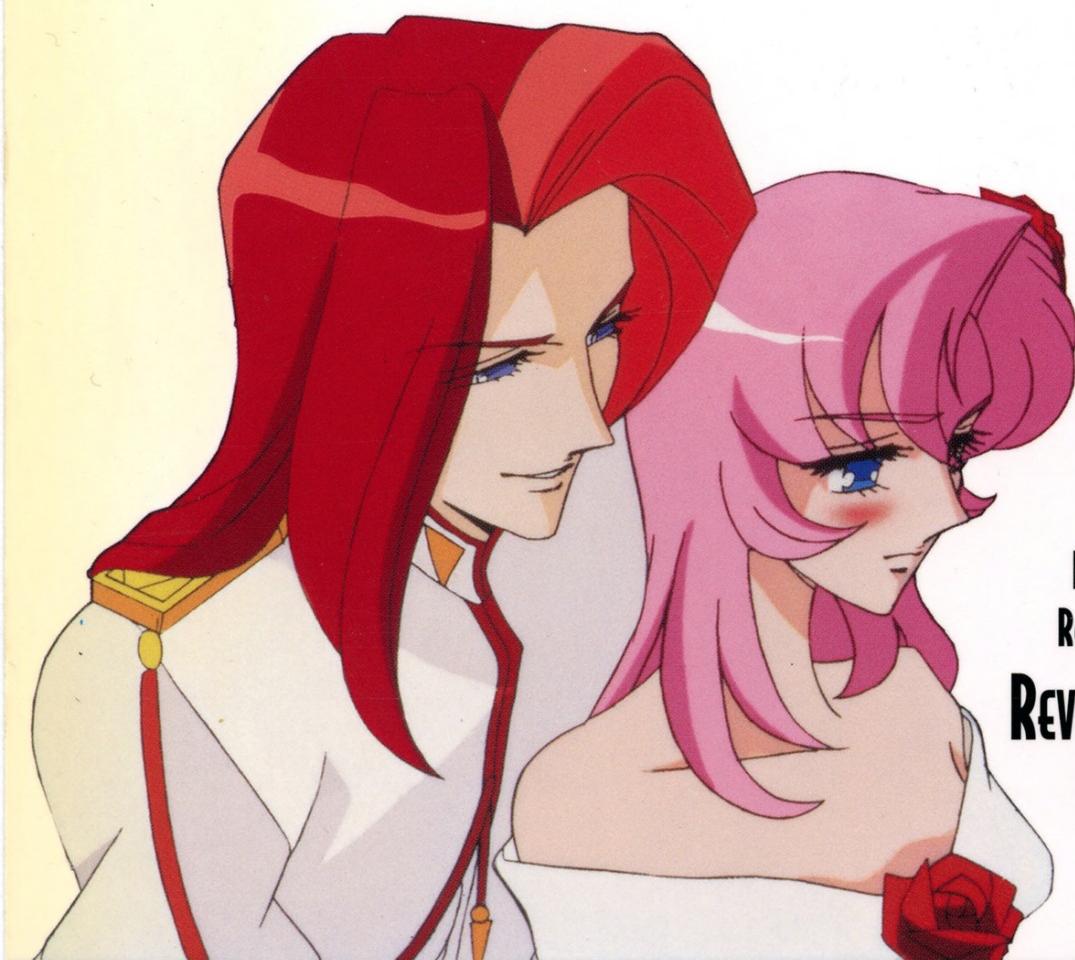
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UTENA

THE BLACK ROSE SAGA



The Essential
Role-Playing and
Reference Guide to

REVOLUTIONARY GIRL UTENA

Book #2, Covers
Episodes 14-24

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